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BVR Subrahmanyam, NITI Aayog CEO

INDIA IS NOW THE FOURTH-LARGEST ECONOMY, AHEAD OF JAPAN: NITI

India has become the fourth largest economy in the world, overtaking Japan, NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam said, quoting IMF data

IMF FORECAST OF APRIL ON RIGHT TRACK

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its World Economic Outlook (WEO) report released in April, said that India is expected to be the fourth largest economy in the world with a GDP of $4.19 trillion in 2025, ahead of Japan. Citing IMF data, Subrahmanyam said," "We are the fourth largest economy as I speak. We are a $4-trillion economy"

INDIA'S PER CAPITA INCOME DOUBLED IN 10 YRS

- India's nominal GDP for 2025 (FY26) is expected to be $ 4.19 billion, marginally more than the likely GDP of Japan which is estimated at $4.187 billion, the IMF had said in its report on economic outlook
- According to data from the IMF, India's per capita income has doubled from $1,438 in 2013-14 to $2,880 in 2025 P10

6.2%

IS INDIAN ECONOMY'S PROJECCTED GROWTH RATE IN 2025-26 AS PER IMF

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Pak sees India as 'existential threat', says US report

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

PAKISTAN continues to view India as an existential threat and is expanding its nuclear arsenal accordingly, while India treats China as its primary strategic adversary and views Pakistan as a secondary concern. This assessment comes from the United States Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) in its 2025 Worldwide Threat Assessment, which raises fresh concerns over rising tensions and military buildups in South Asia.

The report highlights Pakistan's ongoing efforts to modernise its military capabilities, particularly its nuclear weapons programme, with support from foreign sources — primarily China. Islamabad, it says, is committed to developing battlefield nuclear weapons to offset India's conventional military superiority. "Pakistan regards India as an existential threat and will continue to pursue its military modernisation effort, including the development of battlefield nuclear weapons," the DIA stated.

While Islamabad remains focused on India, New Delhi is prioritising its response to China. "India views China as its primary adversary and Pakistan more an ancillary security problem to be managed," the report says.

MSC Elsa 3, which was on its way from Vizhinjam port to Kochi port, sinks in the Arabian sea on Sunday morning | EXPRESS

Container ship sinks with hazardous cargo off Kochi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kochi

POSING a major environmental risk to the Kerala coast, MSC Elsa 3, the container ship which was reported to have listed on Saturday, sank to the depths of the Arabian Sea on Sunday morning off Kochi coast. All 24 crew members have been rescued. The ship was carrying 643 containers, including 13 with hazardous cargo and 12 holding calcium carbide. It also had 84.44 metric tonnes (MT) of diesel and 367.1 MT of furnace oil in its tanks.

The Coast Guard said a comprehensive pollution response has been activated. A Dornier aircraft equipped with advanced oil spill mapping technology is carrying out an aerial assessment of the area.

An emergency meeting of the state Disaster Management Authority issued an alert for the coastline. Fishermen have been told not to conduct fishing operations in a 20-nautical-mile radius around the spot where the ship sank. Coastal residents have been asked not to approach any floating objects.

WHAT WENT DOWN

- **100 CONTAINERS** fell off vessel and floating in the sea
- Location of capsize: **38 nautical miles** from Kochi
- Depth at location: **53 m**
- **CARGO:** 643 containers
- **HAZARDOUS CARGO:** 13 containers
- **CALCIUM CARBIDE:** 12 containers
- **EMPTY CONTAINERS:** 73
- **FURNACE OIL:** 367.1 metric tonnes
- **DIESEL:** 84.44 metric tonnes

The Department of Factories and Boilers, Kerala will form two teams to safely recover the containers while the State Pollution Control Board has set up two rapid response teams to deal with the potential oil spill.

According to authorities, around 100 containers are floating and moving at a speed of 3 km per hour towards the Kerala coast. The remaining containers have sunk to a depth of 53 metres along with the ship.

"At present, no oil spill has been reported. The Coast Guard is fully geared up to respond to the emerging scenario and is closely monitoring the environmental impact," said defence spokesperson Cdr Atul Pillai.

The shipping firm brought technical experts to salvage the containers. However, the efforts failed due to rough sea conditions and strong winds.

OPERATION SINDOOR

Not a one-off military action, says Modi

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

OPERATION Sindoor was a turning point in the global fight against terror showing India's growing strength and clarity of purpose, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday.

"Operation Sindoor is not just a military mission; it is a picture of our resolve, courage and a transforming India and this picture has infused the whole country with a sense of patriotism and has painted it in the hues of the Tricolor," Modi said in his monthly radio broadcast programme *Mann Ki Baat*.

Terming the precision with which Indian forces attacked the terrorist infrastructure across the border as "extraordinary", the PM emphasised that the operation was not a one-off military action, but a reflection of a changing and resolute India.

Crediting India's homegrown defence capabilities for the mission's success, he said: "This was the ultimate bravery of our soldiers, backed by the power of weapons, equipment, and technology made in India."

Modi said Operation Sindoor has infused the entire nation with a sense of patriotism with people preferring Made in India goods over imported ones.

Notably, leaders of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA), who had gathered in New Delhi for a meeting of NDA CMs and deputy CMs, for a meeting, listened to the PM's radio broadcast together.

Lalu expels elder son from RJD, snaps ties

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AHEAD of the Bihar assembly election, RJD chief Lalu Prasad on Sunday expelled his elder son and MLA Tej Pratap Yadav from the party for six years and snapped all family ties with him for posting pictures on social media, 'revealing' his 12-year-old relationship with a woman.

The RJD supremo's action came a day after a post from Tej Pratap's Facebook handle went viral.

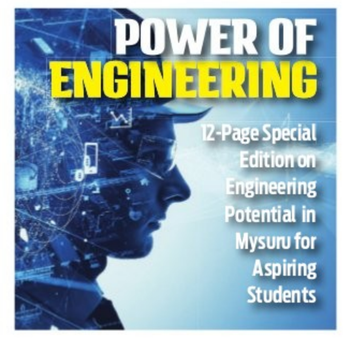
In the post, Tej Pratap is seen with a woman, Anuskha Yadav, in a photograph where he said that he had 12-year-long relationship with her.

After the post gained traction, Tej Pratap claimed on 'X' that his social media platforms had been hacked.

B'DESH

COURT BEGINS FIRST TRIAL OF HASINA-ERA OFFICIALS

A Crimes Tribunal accepted charges against Dhaka's former police commissioner and seven others for crimes during last year's uprising in Bangladesh | P9



K'taka records nearly 100 Covid cases

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH nine new Covid-19 cases reported on Sunday, the total number of cases in Karnataka has reached nearly a hundred. Of them, 47 are active cases — 46 are isolating at home, while one is admitted to a private hospital. Though no deaths were reported in the last 24 hours, the state had a positivity rate of 8.65.

In the last 24 hours, 104 tests, including RT-PCR and rapid antigen, have been conducted. The Health Department will increase daily RT-PCR tests to 150-200 across the state following recommendations from the Covid Technical Advisory Committee. From Sunday, testing for Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) cases too started. Individuals in high-risk groups, like the elderly, children and pregnant women, with symptoms of Influenza-like Illness (ILI) will be tested at both government and private hospitals. As the number of Covid cases remains relatively low, testing is concentrated at centres equipped with Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDL). MORE P3

Following the onset of monsoon in Karnataka, water level in the Cauvery river has started to rise, as seen near Cheyyandane village in Kodagu on Sunday | EXPRESS

Widespread rainfall forecast across Karnataka till May 28

INDRA S @ Bengaluru

WITH the monsoon setting in, Karnataka will witness intense and widespread rainfall from Sunday till May 28, as per the forecast issued by India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Sunday.

Coastal, interior, northern and southern regions, including parts of Bengaluru, Udupi, and Dakshina Kannada, are likely to be impacted. These regions are also expected to experience strong winds ranging from 40-60 kmph.

IMD has not issued any warning for Bengaluru, but Udupi, Chikkamgaluru and Shivamogga districts are under red alert. An orange alert has been issued for Dharwad and Belagavi till Monday. Weather conditions will ease from Thursday as no red alerts have been issued anywhere in the state, while only orange and yellow alerts have been sounded for coastal and south-interior parts of the state.

Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada districts are likely to experience extremely heavy rainfall at isolated spots, with sustained winds of 40-50 kmph on Monday (May 26). Very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall has been predicted on Tuesday, while intensity will reduce from Wednesday, the IMD stated. P5

Two die in Malnad

Two people died in tree fall incidents as heavy rain pounded Malnad region on Saturday and Sunday. At Arji village in Virajpet, a tribal woman was crushed to death when a tree fell on her. In Koppa taluk, an auto driver died after a tree fell on his vehicle.

It's temp staff that runs Gulbarga varsity

RAMKRISHNA BADSESHI @ Kalaburagi

GULBARGA University offers an object lesson in how not to run a higher educational institution. The university does not have a vice-chancellor. It plods along with only two professors and four associate professors.

Once a prestigious learning centre in Kalyana-Karnataka, it has been reduced to a university of guest faculty. More than 70 per cent of the sanctioned posts have remained vacant. The university's admissions have declined over the years, with only 3,000 students studying across its 80 colleges at present. Consider this -- in 2022-23, over 2,000 students took admission and the numbers fell to a mere 800 in 2023-24.

The declining number of students' intake captures the administrative morass the university finds itself in.

The university was set up on September 10, 1980, with the bifurcation of Karnataka University. Earlier, it functioned as the Postgraduate Centre of Karnataka University from 1970 to 1980.

Over the years, as the state government set up new universities, Gulbarga University lost its stature as Raichur University (2021) and Bidar University (2023) came into existence.

Raichur University has jurisdiction over colleges in Raichur and Yadgir districts, while Gulbarga University's authority is over colleges only in Kalaburagi district. With bifurcations and dwindling number of colleges, revenues of Gulbarga University have plummeted. P2

The search committees constituted to shortlist the names of candidates for the posts of vice-chancellors have submitted their reports. The reports would be sent to CM Siddaramaiah in a day or two

MC Sudhakar, minister

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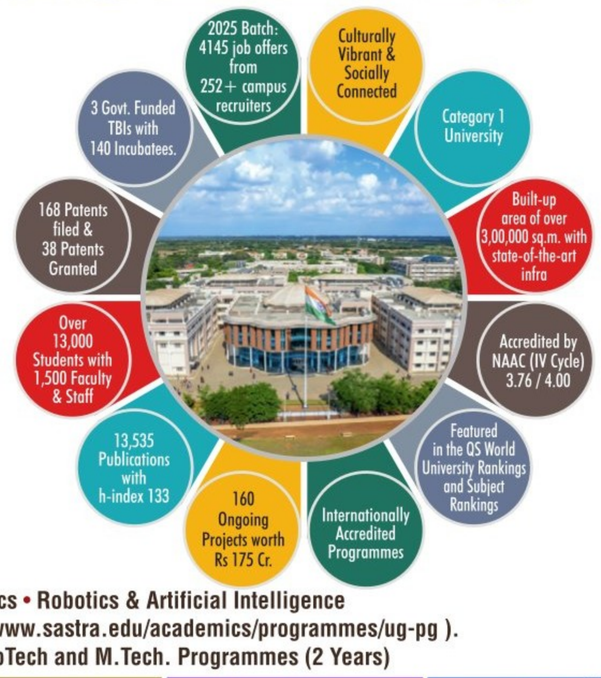
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ALMANAC TODAY

Monday: 26.05.2025 • Year: Vishwavasu • Ayana: Uttarayana • Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Vaishaka • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Chaturdasi 11.07 am • Nakshatra: Bharani 7.28 am • Moon in Vrishabha Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am • Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER

MIN 21°C | MAX 26°C

FORECAST: Showers late. Overcast

Sunrise 05.52 am | Sunset 06.41 pm | Moonrise 04.44 am | Moonset 05.59 pm

Vidhana Soudha opens doors to public for guided tours from June 1

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FOR the first time, the public will get a guided tour of Karnataka's iconic seat of power — the Vidhana Soudha. Starting June 1, visitors can explore the grandeur of the State's legislative building by paying an entry fee of Rs 50. However, students up to Class 10 or under the age of 15 will get free entry, but registration is mandatory.

Visitors can tour the building on all Sundays, as well as on the second and fourth Saturdays of every month, as part of the initiative by the Department of Tourism, Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC) in coordination with Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speakers Office (KLASO) and others.

Approximately 300 visitors will be allowed per day, divided into slots of 30 participants each. The guided tour, in Kannada and English, will begin at 8am and go on till 5pm. However, carrying and using single-use plastic items is strictly banned within the complex premises.

Tickets for the guided tour that covers a distance of 1.5km are available at https://kstdc.co/activities. The organisers informed that the tour will not operate on days when the Legislative Assembly or Legislative Council is in session, or when security advisories are in place.

Inaugurating the guided tour on Sunday, Speaker UT Khader called the initiative unique, where the citizens can immerse themselves in the rich legacy of the state's democratic heritage.

Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister HK Patil said, "Vidhana Soudha is the very heart of our democracy. By opening its halls and corridors for guided walks, we are giving the public a chance to witness history, architecture and governance."

Speaker UT Khader with Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti and others during the inauguration of Vidhana Soudha guideline tour in Bengaluru | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

The visitors will also need to carry a physical copy of their original Aadhaar card, while students will need a valid school ID along with Aadhaar. Foreigners should produce their original passports for verification.

"Kengal Hanumanthaiah, the architect of the majestic Vidhana Soudha, wanted to build something that reflected Indian identity — a building with Indian composition which did not carry the colonial imprint," said tourist guide Septhar.

DCM TO MONITOR

Panel to study ways to raise bar in varsities

RAMAKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Kalaburagi

THE State Government has formed a Cabinet Sub-Committee under the chairmanship of Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar to study and submit a report to the Cabinet on the overall improvement of the quality of education in the universities across Karnataka, said Minister for Higher Education M C Sudhakar.

In an exclusive telephonic conversation with 'The New Indian Express' on Thursday, Sudhakar said that the Cabinet Sub-Committee has already held two meetings and the process of compiling the information is under progress.

The committee may hold another one or two meetings before submitting its report to the Cabinet, he said.

The committee would study the present status of all the universities, including their financial and academic conditions, and vacancies including backlog and regular posts.

The minister said that new courses have been introduced in some of the universities and the strength of students has come down in some of the courses in the universities.

The committee has to study the downsising of the number of sanctioned posts based on the number of students and to create more posts for new courses. As of now, there are 3,000 vacancies for various posts in the state-run universities. The Cabinet Sub-Committee has to give an integrated report to the cabinet. For this purpose, experts from the Finance Department have also been included in committee.

Sudhakar said that he has convinced the committee as well as the experts from the Finance Department on the necessary recruitment of the faculty for getting the green signal from the UGC to run the institutes.

CONSTRUCTION AT CANTT STATION LEAVES PASSENGERS CLUELESS

No signage at Millers Rd, Vasanthnagar entries

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

WITH major construction work under way at Bengaluru Cantonment Railway Station, commuters are facing severe inconvenience on both the Millers Road and Vasanthnagar sides. From misleading entries to unregulated auto fares and lack of basic amenities, the station has turned into a nightmare for many, particularly senior citizens and outstation travellers.

Due to construction work blocking access to the main entrance, most auto and cab drivers now assume that trains operate from the Millers Road side, and drop passengers at the rear gate. However, this side too is affected by ongoing work and lacks proper access to platforms. Drivers drop off commuters and leave immediately, leaving many — especially those unfamiliar with the station layout — struggling to find their way, often with luggage, elderly companions or children, and no assistance or guidance.

"Both Platform 1 and 2 are in poor condition. Buildings on both sides have been demolished. There is no shelter or canopy along the full walkway. There are barely any chairs, and older people struggle every day for long hours," said Anil Kumar, a passenger who recently travelled with his elderly parents to Kerala, adding that he even filed a complaint.

"A complaint was first sent through RailMadad, but the response only spoke of long-term plans once the new station is built. A second complaint was sent to the Railway Board, asking for urgent temporary solutions," Kumar told TNIE, lamenting that construction could take years. He suggested that the government must find temporary solutions and include temporary sheds, maybe battery vehicles for seniors, more seating and clear signage.

Commuters told *TNIE* that usually, entry to Platform 2 remains waterlogged, with dirty drain water spilling on to the road. People arriving through this part of Millers Road have to wade through the chaos just to enter the station and inside, the number of seats is limited. For senior citizens or sick passengers, the lack of proper waiting space adds to their discomfort. Mahesh M, a software engineer, said the problems begin even before entering the station. "Auto drivers fool passengers and charge high fares, saying the roads are in bad shape, but drop passengers some metres away and refuse to go any further. Most people don't know how long the distance actually is, and pay up, then have to find their way carrying heavy luggage."

Passengers make their way through construction materials and debris at Cantonment Railway Station, in Bengaluru on Sunday | ALLEN EGENUSE J

MR VENKATESH GETS BEST CHAIRMAN AWARD

Bengaluru: Sree Thyagaraja Cooperative Bank president M R Venkatesh has been bestowed with the 'Best Chairman of the Year-2025' award at the Bharath Cooperative Banking Summit-2025, held in Mumbai. The bank is headquartered in NR Colony, Bengaluru. Venkatesh received the award from Prabhat Chaturvedi, CEO of National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation, and Sumanesh Joshi, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology. A press release stated that Sree Thyagaraja Cooperative Bank's journey reflects a blend of strong growth, social commitment and a reform-driven vision. The bank is rapidly emerging as a model for modern cooperative banking in India.

FLUSH WITH ANGER

Commuters protest Metro toilet charges

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

AFTER commuters were forced to pay for using toilets at Metro stations in the city, Namma Metro commuters led by Bengaluru-based advocate-cum-activist, will be protesting near the High Court Metro Station on Monday. Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) outsourced the maintenance of the toilets at 12 stations to Sulabh International, which is now charging users Rs 2 for urinals and Rs 5 for the toilets.

The protesters argued that basic amenities like toilets should be free, especially after the recent 71% metro fare hike, which has already overburdened the daily commuters.

T Narasimha Murthy, who has been fighting for the free basic amenities at Metro since 2015 said that the toilet fee collection is 'an unfair extra burden'. Clean toilets and drinking water are basic necessities, not premium services, he mentioned.

Murthy said that he first raised the demand during the inauguration of Nagasandra Metro station by the then Chief Minister Siddaramaiah along with then Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, M Venkaiah Naidu on May 1, 2015. "I was arrested after my sit-in protest during the launch. A criminal case (C.C. No. 29449/2018) is still pending before the 8th Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate; the next hearing is set for June 17. I have also filed a separate complaint against BMRCL with the Lokayukta (Case No. BCD2448/2015)", Murthy recalled.

EXPRESS READ

AIDSO protest against govt's decision to close 6,200 govt schools

Bengaluru: The All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO), Bengaluru District Committee, organised a signature campaign on Sunday in front of KSR Railway Station to protest the Karnataka government's decision to close 6,200 government schools under the "Hub and Spoke" model. These schools, each with fewer than 10 students, are being targeted for closure, a move AIDSO strongly opp-oses. The campaign is part of a statewide effort to collect 50 lakh signatures. AIDSO demanded the government to invest in strengthening them by ensuring adequate funding, and teacher availability. ENS

Acharya Institute inaugurates Srishti 2025 with ABVP collaboration

Bengaluru: The Acharya Institute of Technology, in partnership with Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), inaugurated Srishti 2025, a three-day festival celebrating innovation and entrepreneurship. C K Marigowda, Principal, welcomed the attendees, while dignitaries such as Prof Ganesan Kannabiran (NAAC), Sanjay Tyagi (STPI), Virendra Singh Solanki (ABVP), Vinayak Singh Rajput (ABVP North), Balaveer Reddy, Acharya's advisor graced the occasion. The Convenor introduced the Srishti Innovation Exchange 2025, featuring a dynamic schedule aimed at student engagement and thought leadership. ENS

Permanent faculty shortage affects research, says prof

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

DAYANAND Agsar, former vice-chancellor, Gulbarga University, told *TNIE* that research activities of students would suffer in the absence of permanent teaching staff as guest lecturers are, most often, not up to the task. "Efforts have been on for over a decade to fill up vacant teaching and non-teaching staff posts. After the amendment to Article 371 (J), universities in Kalyana-Karnataka have to readjust the reservation for recruitment. The preparation of documents itself took some time and successive VCs of the university submitted repeated requests to the government to fill the vacant posts. There are guest lecturers, but they lack accountability."

But Venkat Sindhe, a guest faculty at the university, countered the former VC's argument. "Guest faculty are eligible to become guides and entitled to do valuation work, but the university does not give us the responsibility. Our role is limited to teaching. It extracts much work from us, but does not consider our demand for regularising our service."

Prof HT Pote, Head of Department of Kannada, and president, Post-Graduate Teachers Association, too, said the shortage of permanent teaching faculty has affected research activities in the university.

"Universities in other parts of the state too have enough permanent teaching staff, but only the universities in Kalyana-Karnataka are facing this problem. The strength of students also has come down in the last two years," he said.

University registrar Prof Ramesh Landankar said, "The V-C's post is vacant for the last four months. The process of filling up vacant posts has not yet commenced. Once the V-C is appointed, the process of fixing the roster system and issuing notification to fill up vacant posts will start," he said.

Anaveer Gowda, a student pursuing MA in History, narrated how frustrating academic pursuit has become. He said students had demonstrated in front of the university administrative office twice demanding permanent teaching staff. "We also asked for regularisation of the service of existing guest lecturers, but the University and the government are silent on the issue," he added.

VC SHORTLIST READY: MINISTER

Minister for Higher Education MC Sudhakar told *TNIE* that the search committees constituted to shortlist the names of candidates for the posts of vice-chancellors have submitted their reports. The reports would be sent to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in a day or two. The CM would send the reports to Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot, who is the chancellor of universities, he added.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

26TH May : Monday is the Moon's Day in all traditions from India to Iran, and the Arab World to Europe and the Americas. The Moon rules all wet things, so that includes melons, mangoes and oranges. That is why the astrological physicians of old would recommend a juicy fruit salad, especially as a remedy for fevers and hot, itchy complaints!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Over the course of the week you will move from a position which is somewhat confused towards one which is thoroughly practical and down-to-earth. You'll also become less wildly emotional by the day - and more gently romantic. Today's developments may therefore have strangely unexpected results.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
This is your week. By this I mean that enterprises and projects set in train three, or even six months ago, should soon come to fruition, much to your satisfaction. Keep all your options open until the last moment. And remember that whatever you're planning now could bear fruit this time next year.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
It's difficult to describe your exact situation at the moment but there could be something vaguely farcical about certain developments. Do maintain your sense of humour: you have two choices - to laugh or to cry. But, then, perhaps you'll laugh so hard that you cry!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The Moon is profoundly helpful, so positive lunar alignments should lift your spirits, making you content to be an emotional and sensitive creature. The most harmonious aspects encourage your poetic, persuasive frame of mind, which is wonderful for those of you with proposals to promote.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You may as well face the fact that intense planetary patterns are obliging you to cope with intimate and personal matters. The fact that there is little room for compromise is complicated by the sheer number of options. You just have too many choices!

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
The themes for the week are travel and communication. If there are places to visit, friends to contact, interviews to attend and meetings to arrange, you're on to a winner. Treat partners with great sympathy today, for even if they behave badly it's because they're under extra stress.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
Sometimes the old sayings are the truest and, as the song says, it's money that makes the world go round. It does seem that you have a great deal to learn from current financial developments, but you have to wait a week or so before you can be sure that you're in for a healthy profit.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You are happily telling people anything they want to hear - and why not? It is a change for you to turn your sharp tongue and ready wit towards cheering partners up instead of needling them with your legendary sense of humour. A loved one who feels hurt needs your healing hands.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Why are you so misunderstood? This is one of your perennial questions. The real problem seems to be a failure of communication, that you don't actually explain yourself properly. It may also be that something personal has not gone according to plan.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Happily, the Sun is forming a set of very fortuitous relationships, so that even when sudden change takes place, you'll make the most of it. Something you half-expected but never really believed would happen, is now about to take place. It's certainly a strange time!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
The ambitious Aquarian is an awesome sight at the moment. Woe betide anyone who stands in your way as you lay your plans for world conquest! Many people are on your side but do watch your back. The last thing you want to do now is forget those essential details!

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
If we look at all the planets that are cajoling and encouraging you, then we find a remarkably complicated picture. This indicates that there are no circumstances you can't cope with, just as long as you take your time and bring in friends who have been here before - and know what they're talking about.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

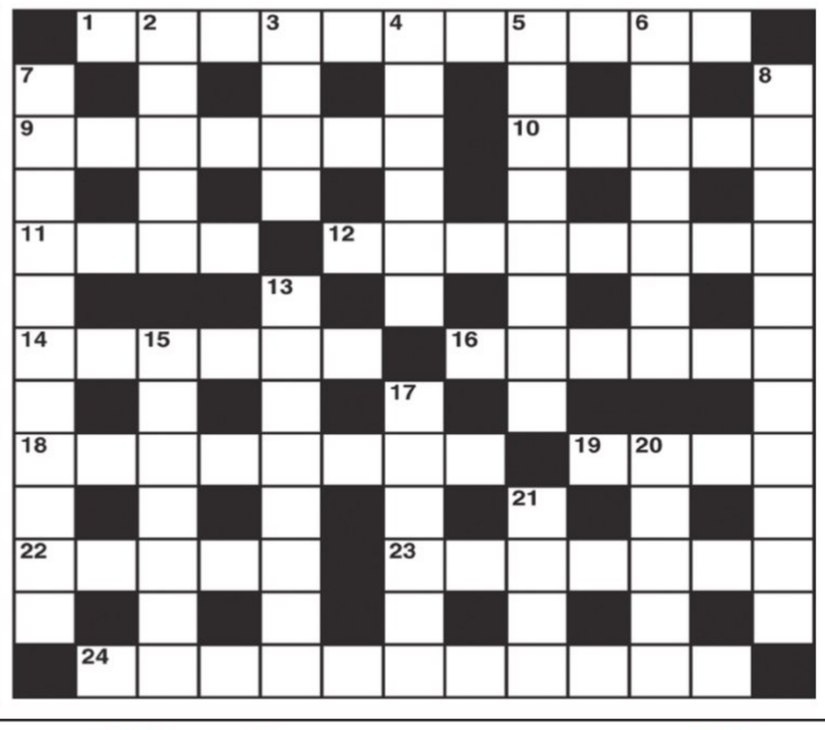
3	9				7			8
		1				9		
	5	7		9				
8	2				9	1		5
		3	2		4	6		
9		5	7				4	2
				7		8	2	
		8				7		
7			3				6	4

7	6	1	8	2	3	9	5	4
8	2	5	7	4	9	3	1	6
4	3	9	1	5	6	7	2	8
5	1	3	9	6	7	8	4	2
9	8	4	2	1	5	6	7	3
6	7	2	4	3	8	5	9	1
1	9	8	3	7	2	4	6	5
3	4	6	5	9	1	2	8	7
2	5	7	6	8	4	1	3	9

SU DO KU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 It takes hard cash to deliver the goods (4,7)
9 Troops stepped out in this formation (7)
10 Madonna portrayed in drama Rialto staged (5)
11 Deserve to get the bird we hear (4)
12 Legislation that went against the grain (4,4)
14 Heartily dislike a hotel under reconstruction (6)
16 Master's current form (6)
18 Vessels that shoot over the waves (8)
19 Repeat after some reflection (4)
22 Change a working spell (5)
23 The very best time for feathers (7)
24 Printers are kind to crossword compilers (11)

DOWN

2 He composed in subtle harmonies (5)
3 It sounds like the end of the story (4)
4 It protects the unborn child in Oman perhaps (6)
5 The kindness of people (8)
6 Render an account (7)
7 Lineages got from him? Yes (11)
8 Redeeming feature of a kidnapping (6,5)
13 Accelerator or choke (8)
15 Something to keep aunty in change (7)
17 Main way to fasten sheets together (6)
20 Seat of learning (5)
21 Piece of sculpture is broken (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Silver, 4 Scenario, 9 Arrest, 10 Ironclad, 12 Chop, 13 Linen, 14 Etna, 17 Paratroopers, 20 Person of note, 23 Omit, 24 Shred, 25 Afar, 28 Take time, 29 Cannon, 30 Meekness, 31 Asides.

Down: 1 Seascape, 2 Larboard, 3 Easy, 5 Corresponded, 6 Nuns, 7 Relate, 8 Ordeal, 11 Pilot schemes, 15 Ether, 16 Craft, 18 Confined, 19 Bearings, 21 Bottom, 22 Pickle, 26 Stun, 27 Pays.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

LYUFL

URGDO

DSIEBE

ZYNZSA

You all must really like it here.
It's a hot spot! We just like hanging out here.
It's nine o'clock on a Saturday The regular crowd shuffles in...
3/31
THE PUB WAS VERY POPULAR WITH GECKOS, IGUANAS, MONITORS AND OTHER ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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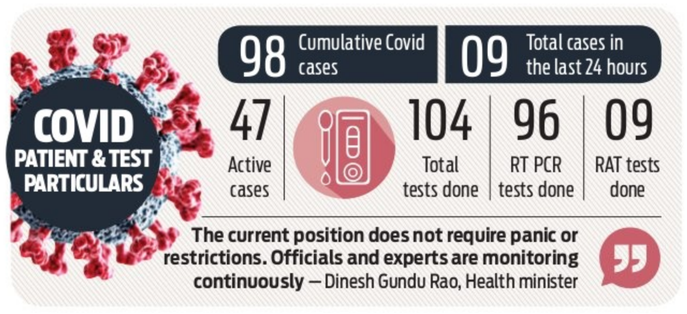
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: AROMA CHURN ABACUS BELONG
Answer: The bird who considered herself in charge of the roosting birds was the — BRANCH MANAGER

A 39-year-old man from Tamil Nadu died after being hit by a speeding bike near the Electronics City flyover while crossing the road. The incident occurred in the Madiwala traffic police limits at 10.45 pm on Saturday. The deceased, Jyothimani, was a resident of Krishnagiri in Tamil Nadu. The police said that Jyothimani had come to the city on Saturday night to visit a relative in Bommanahalli

No need to panic over Covid situation: Min

No inter, intra-state travel curbs considered amid rising cases in Kerala


COVID
PATIENT & TEST PARTICULARS
98 Cumulative Covid cases
09 Total cases in the last 24 hours
47 Active cases
104 Total tests done
96 RT PCR tests done
09 RAT tests done
The current position does not require panic or restrictions. Officials and experts are monitoring continuously — Dinesh Gundu Rao, Health minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH the number of Covid cases on the rise, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao clarified that the overall situation is not alarming, and precautionary measures are being intensified to ensure the state remains prepared. "The current position does not require panic or restrictions. Officials and experts are monitoring continuously. Further decisions will be taken in consultation with the Centre," he said.

The state government has already issued instructions to procure 5,000 RT-PCR testing kits, which will cover about a month's testing. Now, 2,500 rapid antigen test kits (RAT), 1.3 lakh RNA extraction kits, 5,000 RT-PCR kits and two lakh viral transport medium (VTM) kits are available, he said, adding that these kits have also been dispatched to districts.

He said weekly technical advisory committee meetings have been mandated to closely monitor the situation. Asked about travel restrictions with cases rising in Kerala, he said no curbs are being considered within or between states at this stage. "Such measures, if at all needed, will be decided by the Centre after inputs from the state," he said. The department will conduct a death audit of an 84-year-old man whose Covid test report returned positive on Saturday. "He was also suffering from multiple health issues. He had heart problems, tuberculosis and was bedridden for a year. We will conduct an audit to determine if Covid was the primary cause of his death," he added.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah reviewed the situation and directed the health department to act swiftly on expert advice, Rao said. "He told me to update him and ensure Karnataka does not fall behind on preventive measures," he added. Asked whether private testing rates would be fixed, he said it's too early for that as the number of tests is low. "We'll evaluate the situation in three to four days and decide if it is needed," he said.

On the JN1 variant, he said there have been no reports of severe outbreaks in India or other countries. "There's no global fear around this variant. No travel bans have been imposed, and the situation is not comparable to the first or second waves. Still, we are being cautious," he said.

KAMS says schools must be vigilant

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

As schools are set to reopen, the Karnataka Association of Management Schools (KAMS) issued an advisory on Sunday, urging all educational institutions to remain alert in light of the new Covid variants and seasonal viral infections.

The advisory emphasises a strict health-based attendance policy, stating that students displaying symptoms such as fever, cough, cold, or skin rashes should not be sent to school. Parents are advised to seek immediate medical care for unwell children.

"There is no need for panic. Children who are healthy and symptom-free can safely attend school," said Shashi Kumar D, General Secretary of KAMS. School heads and teachers are encouraged to promote hygiene by maintaining clean classrooms, ensuring regular handwashing, and improving ventilation.

If any student falls ill during school hours, schools are directed to isolate the child safely, provide basic first aid, and inform the parents immediately.

Reinforcing that healthy children can safely attend school, KAMS called for cooperation to ensure safe and reassuring learning environments for all.

Three arrested for hacking e-Swathu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

RAMANAGARA CEN police arrested three people for hacking the government e-Swathu software and tampering with documents.

The accused Sharath (30), is a former contract employee of Narasandra Gram Panchayat in Magadi taluk, and the mastermind behind the hacking, along with his associates Nadeem (38) and Deepak (27).

Sharath, who had previously worked at the Gram Panchayat office, was aware of the loopholes in the e-Swathu software. Nadeem and Deepak, who were involved in computer repairs at the Panchayat office, hacked the software. They altered the records of properties under gram panchayats in Ramanagara, Bengaluru, Hassan and Tumakuru districts, collecting money from the public in return for illegal services in the software.

Sharath handled the document editing, while Nadeem and Deepak brought the clients. Aware that tampering with major land or ownership records could alert officials, the trio focused on making minor edits to documents and data. The gang illegally modified around 500 records such as ineligible ownership entries, account transfers, map changes, chakbandi (land consolidation) registers, and property transfers. They particularly altered documents required for obtaining bank loans, and used this to get money from the public. The hacking came to light after an individual, who had paid Sharath to tamper with the records, later approached the Gram Panchayat for official rectification. Upon checking, the Panchayat Development Officer (PDO) found the irregularities and filed a complaint with the CEN police.

Ramanagara SP Srinivas Gowda said, "There are others involved in the racket, and further investigation is under way."

BAKRID MARKET

Goats and sheep for sale at Chamarajpet Idgah Maidan, in Bengaluru, on Sunday ahead of Bakrid, festival of sacrifice for Muslims| SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

EXPRESS READ

Rave party at Kannamangala village, 4 arrested

Bengaluru: Four drug peddlers were arrested following a raid on a rave party at a farmhouse near Kannamangala village, under the jurisdiction of the Devanahalli police station. The party took place on Saturday. Acting on a tip-off, police raided the farmhouse around 5 am on Sunday. A total of 31 people, including seven women, were allegedly found consuming illegal substances at the party. Most attendees are from the IT sector and hail from other states. The drug users were let off after interrogation, and their blood samples were collected for further investigation. Police said they seized ganja, cocaine, and other banned narcotics from the premises.

Delivery agent held for assaulting customer

Bengaluru: The Basaveshwaranagar police have arrested an online grocery delivery executive for allegedly assaulting a customer following an argument over a wrong address. The incident took place near Judges Colony on May 21. The police said the delivery executive, Vishnuvardhan, was arrested on Sunday morning and released later after securing station bail. The victim, Shashank, a businessman alleged that the accused misbehaved with his sister-in-law the incorrect address. Later, when he and his wife intervened, the delivery executive allegedly punched him in the face and injured his left eye.

For slum dwellers, rain brings only pain

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

AS monsoon clouds gather over Bengaluru, thousands of slum dwellers in the city live in fear of flooding. Many residents, especially those living in low-lying and flood-prone areas like Bakshi Garden off Goodshed Road, Narasimahaiah Colony near Mysuru Road Satellite Bus Stand, and Vinobha Nagar -- all slums built over storm water drains -- fear that rainwater will gush into their homes and damage their belongings, besides bringing health issues.

The Slum Mahila Sanghatane has raised alarm over poor preparedness in these vulnerable settlements. The organisation has demanded that the Disaster Management Act be fully implemented, including mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. They suggested that temporary shelters be set up in government schools and community halls, besides health camps with access to clean water and essential medicines.

"We only receive help from Rotary Club and volunteers. BBMP has done nothing," said Jhansi, a member of the Sanghatane. One of the main reasons cited for the recurring floods is the failure of the civic body to desilt stormwater drains -- a task supposed to be carried out annually.

Responding to the concerns, Karnataka Slum Development Board Commissioner Ashok DR said, "All engineers have been directed to closely monitor slums that are at risk of flooding, and take preventive action. Although slums do not come directly under our administration, we coordinate with local bodies to ensure timely response."

He added that the Slum Board focuses on providing housing, toilets and drinking water.

In an endeavour to provide permanent shelter and relief from rain-related issues to slum dwellers, the Slum Board is constructing houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), he said.

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|| Shradhanjali ||
(08-01-1947) (22-05-2025)
Kastury Umapathy Rao
With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sad demise of our beloved Father who left for his heavenly abode on 22/05/2025.
We request your kind presence to Grace this solemn occasion for the eternal peace of the departed soul.
Friends & Family's :
Luzviminda Kastury(Wife), Sita Devi Velpuri(Sister), Prabhakara Rao Kastury(Brother)
Tara & Andy, Leah & Mike,Sree & Patrick.Ram and Phani Kastury.

KLE ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA
(Deemed-to-be-University established u/s 3 & 12b of the UGC Act, 1956)
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KAHER invites applications for admission to
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (Ph.D.) PROGRAM 2025-26
Online Applications are invited for Full Time/ Part Time (Internal/External) Ph.D. programme in various disciplines of Health Sciences viz. Medical, Dental, Pharmacy, Ayurveda, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Biotechnology, Inter-disciplinary & Allied Health Sciences, for the academic year 2025-26 (Batch-B).
*Full time Ph.D Scholars are entitled for stipend as per KAHER norms.
The detailed requirements, eligibility criteria and online application forms can be downloaded from the website
www.kaher.edu.in Monday 26th May 2025
• Last date for submission of Online application forms Saturday 21st June, 2025.
• Last date for submission of hard copy of application form along with documents Monday 23rd June 2025.
0831- 2444 444 Sd/- Registrar

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BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL (BRIC) - RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY (RGCB)
A Biotechnology Institute of the Government of India, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry for Science & Technology, Thycaud PO, Thiruvananthapuram 695014, Kerala, India, www.rgcb.res.in
Advt No: RGCB/MSc/2025-1 26/05/2025
BRIC-RGCB invites application for Admission to the Master's Degree in Biotechnology (MSc Biotechnology)
BRIC-RGCB MSc program is affiliated to the Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) an "Institution of National Importance" providing education, training and research established by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This programme has duration of two years inclusive of four semesters. All students admitted to the MSc programme shall receive a monthly stipend of ₹ 6000 for the first year and ₹ 8000 for the second year.
ELIGIBILITY:
• All candidates must have a valid GAT-B score.
• Final selection of the students will be based on the GAT-B rank and the Cut-off score/rank fixed by BRIC-RGCB for each category.
• Students must have 60% aggregate marks (or an equivalent grade point average) in Bachelor's degree in any branch of Life Science or Medicine as per the UGC guidelines.
Last Date to receive the filled application: On or before 15th June, 2025
Complete information, application format and other details are available on the BRIC-RGCB website (www.rgcb.res.in/msc)
Sd/- Director

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बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda
Bank of Baroda
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Bidadi Branch (Erstwhile Vijaya Bank), N.A.N. Complex, Bangalore- Mysore Road, Bidadi, Ramanagara Taluk & Dist - 562109
POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property) (See- Rule 8(1))
Whereas,The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda Bidadi Branch under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 05-11-2024 calling upon the borrower M/S Govardhan Bar & Restaurant Represented by its Prop: Prakash B M having its business at B M Road Bidadi Ramanagara Karnataka - 562109 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.23,32,022/- (O/s as on 04-11-2024) + Interest from 05-11-2024 + Other Charges within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 on this 20th day of May of the year 2025
The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Bank of Baroda for an amount of Rs.23,32,022/- (O/s as on 04-11-2024) + Interest from 05-11-2024 + Other Charges) and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
Security agreement with brief description of securities
Schedule: All that piece and parcel of RCC Commercial Property Katha no:533/993/812,converted in Sy no 46:3 measuring 5 guntas vide order no 39/1990-91 dt 13-05-1991 with extent of East to West: 70 Feet and north to south: 78 Feet, Situated at Bidadi Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District bounded by:
East: House of Babu Sahib and Vacant Site,West: BM Road, North: Vacant Site of Chowki Mutt, South: Remaining Property of Shanthamma now sold to rajanna.
Place: BIDADI Date: 20.05.2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer Bank of Baroda

Chola
CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED
Corporate Office: " CHOLA CREST " C 54 & 55, Super B – 4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai – 600032
Branch Address:1st & 2nd Floor, Municipal No.45,(Old Nos.45& 45/1),Lalbagh Road, Bangalore-560027
Branch Address:2nd Floor, No.1143, MIG 16th B Cross 2nd Stage, 'B' Sector, Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore - 560064.
Branch Address:93/1, Gobind Towers, 1st Floor, Singasandra, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068
POSSESSION NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (1)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 hereinafter called the Act and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13[12] read with Rules 3 of the Security Interest [Enforcement] Rules, 2002 issued demand notice calling upon the borrowers, whose names have been indicated in Column [B] below on dates specified in Column [C] to repay the outstanding amount indicated in Column [D] below with interest thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers in particular and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties mortgaged with the Company described in Column [E] herein below on the respective dates mentioned in Column [F] in exercise of the powers conferred on him under Section 13[4] of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules made there under. The borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties mentioned in Column [E] below and any such dealings will be subject to the charge of M/s. Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited for an amount mentioned in Column [D] along with interest and other charges.
Under section 13 [8] of the Securitisation Act, the borrowers can redeem the secured asset by payment of the entire outstandingincluding all costs, charges and expenses before notification of sale.

Sl No [A]	Name & Address of Borrower Loan A/c [B]	Date of Demand notice [C]	Outstanding Amount [D]	Details of Property [E]	Date of Possession [F]
1)	Loan A/c No. HE01YAA00000047356 1. Chandrashekar Hoskote Venkateshappa (Applicant), 2. Muniyappa Anitha (Co-Applicant), No.35, Anjaneya Temple Road, Killari Pete Hoskote, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka - 562114. 3. TFS Shalini Flower Stall (Co-Applicant),Shop No.05 Keb Circle Near Flyover Hosakote Town, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka - 562114.	07-03-2025	Rs. 46,74,394/- as on 07-03-2025 and interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of Property bearing Khatha No.346/291/355,PID No.35-503-129, Situated at kilaripetegeCMC, Hoskote Town, Bangalore Rural, Presently with in the limits of Hoskote TMC and bounded on :East by : Municipal Street,West by : Property belonging to Sathyaraj,North by :Vacant Property of Ragi Muniyappa ,South by : Remaining portion of Same Khatha No. Belonging to Meenakshamma. Measuring East to West : 49 feet (14.935230.Mtrs) and North to South 20ft (6.096012.Mtrs) in all measuring 980Sq.ft (43.106992.Sq.Mtrs) Within the registration district of Bangalore and Sub Registration office.	21.05.2025
2)	Loan A/c No. HE01BAN00000023021 1.Prashanth Srinivasa Gowda,2.Srinivasa Gowda, 3.Srinivas Gowda Pavithra All Are Residing At :No.20, Rajabhavi Road, Varthur Main Road, Mcc Layout,Varthur, Bangalore - 560087. 4.Colour Flowers Supply,No.20, Ardhagiri Nilaya, Rajabhavi Road, Mcc Layout, Varthur, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560087.	07-10-2024	Rs. 35,29,561/- as on 07-10-2024 and interest thereon	All That Piece And Parcel Of The Immovable Property Bearing Site No.20, Khatha No.1726, Municipal No.205, Formed In Sy.No.78/4, Vide Conversion Order No. Aln(Evh) Sr/112/2025-16, Dated 02.04.2016, Measuring East To West 35 Feet And North To South 44 Feet Situated At Mcc Meenakshi Enclave Varthur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently Within The Limits Of Bbmp And Bounded On The : East By : 25Feet Wide Road, West By : Site No.27, North By : Site No.21,South By : Private Property, Within The Registration District Of Bangalore And Sub Registration Office.	21.05.2025
3)	Loan A/c No. ML01BMN00000066083 1.Sheeraz Khan (Applicant),2.Arshiya Khan (Co-Applicant) No.16, 1st Main Dharmana Garden, R T Nagar, Bangalore – 560032.2.Karnataka Steels (Co-Applicant), No.17, Dharmanna Garden Near White House, Bangalore North,Bangalore, Karnataka – 560032	07-03-2025	Rs. 52,58,790/- as on 07-03-2025 and interest thereon	All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.17, in Katha No.89/1, Situated at Cholanayakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Presently within the limit of BBMP. Measuring East to West : 30 feet and North to South : 40 feet, in all measuring 1200 Square feet, along with building Constructed thereon and bounded on:East by : Site No.18,West by : Site No.16,North by : Site No.33,South by : Road.	21.05.2025

Date : 26.05.2025 Place : Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer M/s. Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited

Aeronautical Development Agency
(Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PB No. 1718, Vimanapura Post, Bangalore-560017
Advt Reference No. : ADA:ADV-133:2025 15-05-2025
Filling up of one post in the Designation of 'Joint Director (MM)' in Pay Level-13 (123100-215900) on Deputation Basis at ADA
Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is an Autonomous Body and a Society entrusted with the task of Design and Development of Tejas (LCA), AMCA and other projects of national importance. Applications are hereby invited from eligible officers of Central / State Government / Central Autonomous Bodies / Public Sector Undertakings / Union Territory Administration for filling up one post of 'Joint Director (MM)' on deputation basis at ADA, Bangalore. The details are as mentioned below:

Name of the Post	Pay Level	No. of Post	Initial Term of Deputation
Joint Director (Materials Management)	13	01	3 Years

2. Eligibility: Officers of the organizations as mentioned above holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre/department OR with three years regular service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in level-12 (Rs.78800-209200/-) or above in the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre/department.
3. How to apply: Interested officers may please visit ADA website: www.ada.gov.in for eligibility conditions, format of application and other details of the notification. Application in prescribed format completed in all respects with necessary annexures, APAR, Vigilance Clearance certificate etc. may be forwarded through proper channel to Director (Admin & HR), Aeronautical Development Agency, Vibhuthipura, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore - 560 037 by Regd./ Speed post so as to reach ADA on or before 25th June 2025.
Director (Admin & HR), ADA

Assam Minister for Industries and Commerce and Public Enterprises Bimal Borah visited the house of Pahalgam terror attack victim Manjunath Rao in Shivamogga on Sunday and handed over a cheque of Rs 5 lakh on behalf of the Assam government

'HOMES BUILT OVER SWDs, CLEARING ALL ENCROACHMENTS NOT POSSIBLE'

AMID many controversies, the Congress government has completed two years in Karnataka. While the Opposition is slamming the government for alleged scams, lack of development works and splitting Bengaluru, veteran Congress leader and Minister for Transport and Endowment **Ramalinga Reddy**, in a conversation with the editorial team of the *TNIE*, speaks about various issues, including the government's achievements, new initiatives, mobility, the rains and Bengaluru floods. He also spoke about the cabinet reshuffle and change of guard. Excerpts.

You are a prominent minister, who knows Bengaluru well. Why does the city flood everytime it rains?
In the beginning, Bengaluru had only 150 villages and 110 villages were added. Almost every village had a lake, but they made way for development. For instance, Dharmambudhi lake made way for Majestic Bus Stand. Stormwater drains (SWD) are encroached upon and hundreds of homes are built over them. Clearing all the encroachments is practically not possible. So when it rains heavily, even 90mm of rain in a span of one hour, it floods over 100 spots in the city. When SM Krishna was CM and in Siddaramaiah's previous regime, the SWD network was built with retaining walls. Now we are regularly desilting the drains too. However, the governments that came in between didn't focus on building the SWD network.

What about encroachment of drains?
Every time Bengaluru floods, the issue of encroachment clearance is discussed. I have been an MLA since 1989, SWDs were encroached much before that. If the encroachments have to be cleared, hundreds of homes have to be demolished, which is practically not possible. In core areas wherever there is scope, SWDs have to be widened. In 110 villages, we have enough space and the widening should be mandatorily done to ensure free flow of rainwater.

Cabinet reshuffle may happen in November 2025. But there will be no change of Chief Minister's post and Siddaramaiah will continue for five years

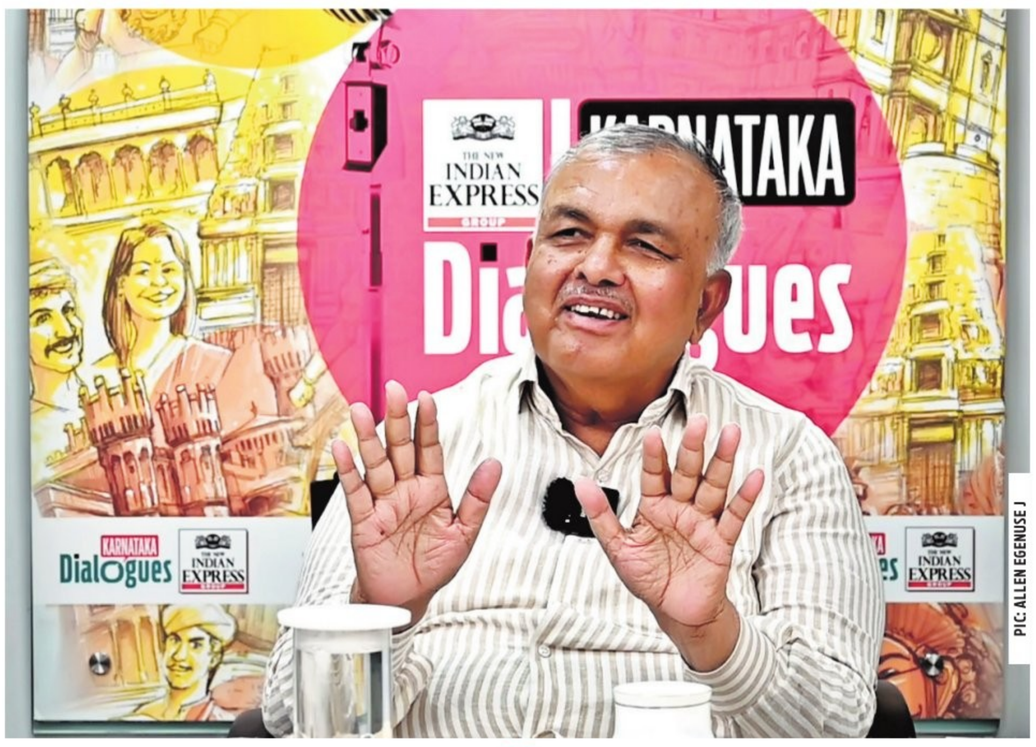
Will Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) address the garbage, potholes and rain issues?
When I was a corporator in the early 80s, the population of the city was around 20 lakh. Farmers would pay to buy the city's garbage, which was mostly cow dung and grass. Now waste generated mainly contains plastic. There is no coordination between various civic agencies in Bengaluru. There should be a tight grip on the administration. One commissioner cannot visit or monitor all wards. To address these issues, we have formed GBA. In my opinion, it will be good if three corporations are created in the GBA, though it can be extended up to seven. Funds can be allocated equally among smaller corporations.

Come September, it will be five years without a council in Bengaluru. Won't it burden the MLAs?
MLAs are definitely burdened. MLAs are the policy makers, but now we are doing the job of the corporator also. Corporators would attend to issues like garbage, pavements and streetlights on a day-to-day basis, irrespective of parties.

When will elections for GBA be held?
In all probability, elections will be conducted by the end of this year.

What do you have to say about the allegation of the Council not having power under Greater Bengaluru Authority?
If there were any issues with the 74th Amendment, the Governor would not have given his assent. The BJP could have gone to court and challenged, all that did not happen. There is no overriding of the 74th Amendment and it will not undermine the powers of elected corporators. We have formed GBA under the 74th Amendment framework.

What are the plans to improve public transport?
Public transport has to be improved. We have around 6,500 buses. We require 10,000 buses for the city's population for last-mile connectivity. Nearly 40 lakh people use BMTC buses every day, whereas only 8 lakh people travel in the Metro. The priority given to Metro is not given to BMTC, because poor people travel in this.



PIC: ALLEN EGENUSE J

Is a tunnel road necessary for Bengaluru, considering the costs, traffic congestion, and long-term urban growth?
Yes, a tunnel road is becoming increasingly necessary for Bengaluru. While tunnels may seem costly, countries like Switzerland have built extensive tunnel networks through rocky terrain. Bengaluru's population, currently 1.4 crore, is expected to reach 2 crore in the next decade, making land acquisition for surface roads expensive. Underground roads are a more sustainable option. With vehicle numbers matching the population, tunnel roads can greatly reduce congestion and enhance mobility, offering a long-term solution for the city's growing infrastructure demands.

Underground roads are a more sustainable option. With vehicle numbers matching the population, tunnel roads can greatly reduce congestion and enhance mobility, offering a long-term solution for the city's growing infrastructure demands

What steps is the Transport department taking on auto fare revision, RTO enforcement, and the bike-taxi ban in Karnataka?
Auto fares haven't been updated for years. A Deputy Commissioners' committee is now reviewing costs and is expected to announce a revised minimum fare shortly. On bike taxis, the High Court ruled that privately owned two-wheelers should not be commercialised and ordered a ban to take effect within six weeks and has extended it for another six weeks, after which they will be prohibited.

Encroachment of endowment properties has been reported. What action was taken to clear it?
Before the Land Reforms Act, temple authorities owned land, some up to 800 acres. But the Act transferred ownership to tillers, leading to major land loss. After which we began offering 'Tasthikarana'. In a review meeting, we found 36,000 acres still remain with temples, but only 3,500 acres were properly documented. Under the guidance of Principal Secretary Rajendra Kumar Kataria, officers were directed to correct records. So far, 15,000 acres have been allotted to respective temples. Documentation for the remaining 20,000 acres is under way and will be completed in a year.

We have Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies named Bangalore South. Don't you think renaming Ramanagara to Bengaluru South will create confusion?
The existing 28 assembly constituencies of Bengaluru district, four assembly constituencies from Bengaluru Rural and four constituencies from Ramanagara district were together called Bengaluru district earlier. Ramakrishna Hegde divided it into Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts. During HD Kumaraswamy's regime in 2007, Bengaluru Rural district was further divided into Bengaluru Rural and Ramanagara districts. Ramanagara was Bengaluru district earlier, now DK Shivakumar is keen to rename it Bengaluru South as people are showing interest. Opposition is accusing us of renaming it as it would help real estate, but they are not using common sense. In Uttar Pradesh, they changed the names of many cities. Was this done for the real estate mafia? We will have Greater Bengaluru, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru Rural and nothing more.

What do you have to say about the allegation of unavailability of funds for development works due to the guarantee schemes?
Guarantee scheme funds are reaching people directly. The development work has not been stopped. But the amount given for development works might have reduced slightly. We introduced Guarantee schemes because there is a price hike on many commodities. Opposition party members are criticising our schemes right from the beginning. The BJP government, in four years, had a new loan of Rs 2.7 lakh crore. Other than this, Rs 2 lakh crore work was taken up without allocating funds. This is on us now. In spite of these, what development work have they done? We have to increase prices, including BMTC ticket fare, as it was not done for the last 11 years, NERTC and NWKRTC revised ticket fares in 2020. Cost of diesel and the increase in salaries of our employees has increased. This burden is on us and we had to increase ticket fare with no other option. Why do BJP leaders here not talk about price hikes by the Modi government?

Will there be any cabinet reshuffle or change in guard in the state?
Cabinet reshuffle may happen in November 2025. There are a few senior MLAs who are aspirants. However, there will be no change of Chief Minister's post and Siddaramaiah will continue for five years. However, it all depends on the party high command's decision.

What difference do you see between Siddaramaiah government 1.0 and Siddaramaiah government 2.0?
Siddaramaiah is a good administrator. We won polls with full

EXPRESS Dialogues

majority and we have 136 MLAs now. There is no fear of destabilising the government. We had assured to deliver Guarantee schemes and we did it. But our own leaders' unwanted talks on public platforms is causing damage to the government. Some leaders sai d Siddaramaiah will be CM for five years and some said DK Shivakumar will be CM. A few leaders were offering to resign over KPCC posts and aired comments in public, all this was not necessary. There is high command to look into it and take decisions at appropriate times. Recently, there were comments on the honey trapping case by the minister in the house, this was not necessary. All these developments gave enough fodder for opposition parties. All these comments dented the party's image and CM's too.

What do you have to say about Opposition party members' claim on celebrating Sadhana Samaavesha, when there are no development works taken up by the government?
BJP was in power between 2008 to 2013, what did they do? Three times the CMs were changed. There was corruption and mining scams. The sitting CM went to jail. They did not do anything. They were in power for four years again, there were two CMs. There was dissidence. The High Court had to monitor pothole filling. BJP turned Garden City into a Garbage City between 2012 to 2013. They kept a liability of Rs 8,000 crore in 2013. Again in 2023, huge loans they borrowed were passed on to us. Since they did not perform, they do not understand what achievements mean and hence point fingers at Congress and ask what achievement has the government done.

Other than the Guarantee schemes, what are the achievements of the Congress government?
A: The achievements are not limits to Guarantee schemes. The CM and DCM are touring many districts for the foundation stone groundbreaking ceremonies and the inauguration of various projects.

What do you have to say about friction between Kannadiagas and non-Kannadigas, especially in Bengaluru?
People across India have come to Karnataka and are residing. There are lakhs of people from North East, West Bengal, Bihar, Rajasthan and other places. Both skilled and labour classes are here. They have come to our state and they should respect the local language and adjust with us.

What is your message to non-Kannadigas?
This is a free country, people can reside anywhere. You have come here, learn the language. If you respect Kannada, it will make your daily life easier and better. You can also do good business if you know the local language.

After nearly two months, Speaker revokes suspension of 18 BJP MLAs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

ASSEMBLY Speaker U T Khader on Sunday "unconditionally" revoked the suspension of 18 BJP MLAs who had shown disrespect to his chair during the assembly session on March 21.

Khader took the decision after holding deliberations with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, DCM D K Shivakumar, Leader of Opposition R Ashoka and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil at his chambers at Vidhana Soudha.

"They (MLAs) expressed regret for their mistake, saying it happened in excitement. During the suspension, they could not take part in certain committee meetings or go on official tours and faced embarrassment among officials and the public. It is my responsibility to safeguard their dignity," he said. "I have faith in them that they will not repeat the mistake of disrespecting the chair."

The order will be ratified in the House in the upcoming session, he clarified. Wearing a huge smile, Khader expressed happiness that the issue ended on a happy note, especially on the eve of his Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca.

Ashoka welcomed the decision of the speaker. Jayanagar MLA C K Ramamurthy, who anxiously awaited the decision, expressed regret over the incident in the House and said there will be no more disrespect to the speaker's chair.

From left: LoP R Ashoka, DCM DK Shivakumar, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Assembly Speaker UT Khader and Law Minister H K Patil hold deliberations on revoking the suspension of 18 MLAs at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Guv played role in revoking suspension

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah met Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot on Sunday, just hours after Speaker UT Khader formally revoked the suspension of 18 BJP MLAs. The decision, insiders say, wasn't so much driven by magnanimity of the ruling Congress, but by subtle and consistent pressure from the Raj Bhavan. Sources confirmed that it was Gehlot who played the important role in ensuring that the decision was rolled back. He reportedly termed the six-month suspension "undemocratic" and "unconstitutional".

He kept the pressure up on the Congress government ahead of the upcoming Assembly session. "We knew this was coming four days ago," a senior BJP leader said. The groundwork had been done weeks earlier when BJP submitted a memorandum to Gehlot on April 28.

Raj Bhavan sources said the governor did not mince his words in his letters to Siddaramaiah and Khader. He is said to have urged them to immediately reevaluate the suspension order, calling it a threat to the integrity of democratic institutions.

The 18 MLAs were suspended on March 21, with the punishment originally set to run until September 21. But with the looming risk of a public rebuke by the Governor, the Speaker backed down, the sources said. A high-level meeting on Sunday, attended by Khader, Siddaramaiah, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, Law Minister HK Patil, and Leader of Opposition R Ashoka, formally sealed the revocation.

Sources confirmed that the meeting had been planned four days in advance. "Congress knew they had no legal or moral ground left. Revoking the suspension before the session begins was their only way out to avoid embarrassment," a BJP leader said.

Ashoka said, "We thank Khader for revoking the unconstitutional suspension. This is not just a win for BJP, it is a win for democratic values."

There is speculation that a senior Congress leader had pushed for the suspension, reportedly to silence BJP's aggressive floor strategy. That move was okayed by the state leadership in March, but boomeranged.

NITI AAYOG CONCLAVE

Siddu skipping meeting disservice to K'taka: BYV

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

BJP state president B Y Vijayendra criticised Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for skipping the recent NITI Aayog meeting, calling it a disservice to the people of Karnataka.

Speaking to media persons ahead of the Basava Jayanti celebrations at Kalamandira here on Sunday, Vijayendra said: "By absenting himself from such an important meeting, the chief minister has let down the state. Even Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin attended. Why did our chief minister choose to boycott it? He finds time to participate in protests at Jantar Mantar against the Central government, yet skips meetings convened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Clearly, politics is the state government's priority."

He accused the chief minister of consistently taking a confrontational stance against the Centre since coming to power, warning that such actions are not in Karnataka's best interest.

Flays closure of Janaushadhi Kendras

Vijayendra also condemned the state government's decision to suspend the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) operating within government hospital premises across Karnataka.

"Siddaramaiah's dislike for PM Modi is well known. He couldn't tolerate Modi's photograph on Janaushadhi Kendra banners, and hence shut them down. These centres were meant to provide affordable medicines to the poor. Now, patients are being asked to buy expensive medicines from outside. Government hospitals are failing to provide even basic medicines," he alleged.

He accused the government of acting in favour of medical mafia and said the move has severely impacted poor patients. "The CM should visit hospitals himself and see the shortage of medicines," he urged.

'Lack of funds for development'

The BJP state president also claimed that the Congress-led state government is failing to allocate sufficient development funds to MLAs, leading to unrest within their own ranks.

"MLA Raju Kage has expressed suicidal thoughts due to the lack of support, and senior leader R V Deshpande is reportedly unhappy. This shows the government's incompetence. MLAs and the public are both suffering due to stalled development works," he said.

He concluded by asserting that if elections were held today, the BJP would secure between 140 to 150 seats in the assembly.

Priyank writes to Union min, seeks release of pending funds

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge has written to Union Minister for Rural Development Shivaraj Singh Chouhan seeking the release of pending funds under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Empoyment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) to be paid for wages, material procurement and other expenses in Karnataka.

In the letter, Kharge noted that timely disbursement is essential not only to ensure the livelihood security of lakhs of rural workers, but also to maintain the administrative efficacy and trust in the important national programme.

No material funds have been released in the current financial year, resulting in pending bills amounting to Rs 787.20 crore, the minister pointed out. "Additionally, wage liabilities of around Rs 600 crore are outstanding," he said.

Expressing concern over the continued delay in the release of MGNREGS funds, Kharge said, "The rural development commissionerate has submitted all necessary certificates and supporting documents to the Ministry of Rural Development."

According to Kharge, salaries of field-level staff and functionaries have remained unpaid since December 2024. "This delay is severely affecting the routine operations, supervision and on-ground implementation of the scheme," he stated.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan on Sunday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "bold and visionary leadership" as India officially overtook Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy

SHIP'S FUEL SPILL A BIG THREAT ALONG COAST

'Salvaging nearly 500 sunken containers not possible until mid-Sept'

KRISHNA KUMAR K E @Kochi

WITH MSC Elsa 3 capsizing, the bunkered fuel (the fuel used to power the ship) has started spilling while nearly 100 containers, which have been lost overboard, are drifting towards the shore in the South-West direction. The ship sank with over 500 of the 640 containers it was carrying.

According to experts, it is not possible to salvage the containers until mid-September, when monsoon is over, as the Arabian sea is very rough at present.

"The Arabian sea is very rough due to the southwest monsoon. The wind and the current is towards the southwest direction. The Indian Navy and Coast Guard have started taking measures to contain the spread of oil spill," Captain Jismon Jaicob, Alappuzha port officer and registering authority of Kerala Inland Vessels, told *TNIE*.

Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), the container shipping firm, which may face a high amount as fine for oil leakage and resulting pollution to the ecology, too brought another vessel to the site and initiated measures to prevent the fuel spread, Jismon added.

The containers, including the ones with hazardous cargo, are reportedly moving towards the shore at a speed of 3 kmph, and an alert has been sounded, especially in the coastal regions of Alappuzha. The Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) has cautioned people to stay at least 200 m away, from the containers or debris that washes ashore.

Crew members of MSC Elsa 3, the Liberian-flagged container vessel that sank off Kochi coast, being brought to Coast Guard Jetty at Mattanchery on Sunday | SANESH

Possible reasons for capsize

"The ship was converted from a cargo vessel into a container feeder. There are mainly two possibilities. One, it may have developed internal issues like a crack in the hull, and the same worsened due to rough sea conditions. Second, it may have encountered parametric rolling, where a ship's natural rolling motion is amplified by encountering waves. With the weight indifference, the ship might have lost the stability," said K Sivaprasad, Professor, Department of Ship Technology, Cochin University of Science and Technology.

Kerala govt forms rapid rescue teams

T'Puram: Kerala government has initiated emergency measures to mitigate the potential fallout from the sinking of the MSC ELSA 3, a Liberia-flagged container ship. The chief secretary convened a high-level meeting with senior bureaucrats and department heads to formulate a comprehensive action plan. One of the key decisions was the formation of rapid rescue teams to safely recover containers.

MONSOON DAMAGE

Heavy rains lash DK, disrupt life

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Mangaluru

TRAFFIC on the Mangaluru-Bengaluru National Highway (NH-75) was disrupted on Sunday following a landslide at Shirady Ghat in Sakaleshpur taluk of Hassan district. Vehicles stranded along the highway near the Hassan-Dakshina Kannada border, as continuous rainfall in both districts worsened the situation. With increased weekend traffic, congestion intensified, prompting police to erect barricades at key points and divert vehicles to alternate routes.

Heavy rain continued to lash Mangaluru and other parts of Dakshina Kannada district affecting normal life. The traffic at Pumpwell junction was affected due to waterlogging beneath the flyover. Motorists were found struggling to maneuver the waterlogged area.

A huge tree fell on a house at Barebailu in Mangaluru severely damaging the house at around 7 pm on Saturday. Fortunately, no injuries were reported in the incident. Several low-lying areas in Mangaluru were inundated due to the heavy downpour.

Traffic on Darbe-Manjalpadu road was affected for sometime due to a landslip at Parladka junction. Authorities rushed to the spot to clear soil from the road using an earthmover. Two autorickshaws were damaged following a compound collapse in Puttur town.

An SDRF team which arrived in Dakshina Kannada on Sunday | EXPRESS

According to District Disaster Management Authority, seven houses, were partially damaged in the district in the last 24 hours. As many as 237 electric poles and two transformers were also damaged during this period.

Water level in rivers and dams also rose significantly in the district. The water level at AMR dam reached the maximum level of 18.9 metres while at Thumbe Dam, it was 5.50 metres against the maximum level of 6 metres. The water level at Harekala Adyar Dam, Biliyuru Vented Dam and Soham Dam at Iruvailu in Moodbidri taluk also reached the maximum level.

Dr K Anand, in-charge Deputy Commissioner who held an online meeting with officials to take stock of the rain situation said the National and State Disaster Management Teams will arrive in the district

He directed chief officers of all urban local bodies and PDOs of Gram Panchayat to be on high alert in their jurisdiction for disaster management.

Tribal woman killed as Kodagu records 75.04 mm rain

Madikeri: Heavy rainfall was recorded across of Kodagu, and the district was on red alert. Vehicular movements stalled after the trees and electric lines were uprooted in a few regions in the district. A tribal woman was killed in rain fury reported at Arji village in Virajpet. Yeravara Gowri (51), a daily wager put up in an estate line house, is the victim. She was crushed to death after a jackfruit tree outside the house fell on her. The district received 75.04 mm of rainfall in the past 24 hours until Sunday morning.

B'luru- M'luru NH traffic disrupted

Hassan: The vehicular traffic at the Shiradi Ghat stretch on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru National Highway-75 was disrupted due to heavy rain on Sunday. The traffic came to grinding halt after a truck transporting fish overturned while negotiating a curve near Ratemane in Sakleshpur tauk. Vehicles on either side of the highway queued for over 2 km following landslides in two places on the stretch. NHAI engineers are making efforts to prevent landslides by putting sand bags.

N K'taka to witness heavy rain till May 28

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

HEAVY to very heavy rain is expected on Monday and Tuesday at a few places in Belagavi and Dharwad, Bagalkot, Vijayapura and Gadag. The remaining districts in north Karnataka, like Bidar, Haveri, Kalaburagi, Koppal, Raichur and Yadgir will likely see moderate to heavy rainfall till Wednesday, IMD forecast.

South-interior Karnataka will continue to experience extreme rain in Chikkamagaluru, Kodagu and Shivamogga districts, with wind speeds touching 60 kmph till Wednesday. Mysuru, Hassan and Mandya district may also receive heavy rain, while light to moderate rain is expected in Bengaluru and surrounding areas on Monday. Bengaluru, Mandya, Tumakuru, and Davanagere districts are expected to see moderate to heavy rainfall on Tuesday, while several southern districts are set to witness heavy showers on Wednesday.

As per the IMD forecast on Sunday, all parts of the state will receive moderate to heavy rainfall, while Bengaluru, Tumakuru and Ramanagara will receive heavy rain throughout the week.

HC condones delay, asks Rlys tribunal to reconsider compensation claim

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CONDONING the delay of nearly 16 months in approaching the Railway Claims Tribunal for compensation by a village family, whose member died in a 2016 railway accident in Kalaburagi, the Karnataka High Court remitted the case to the Tribunal to consider on merits, in accordance with the law.

The court said the Tribunal can consider the claim application after receiving evidence from both parties, and dispose of it within a period of six months. "When the wife and mother are residing in a village, being rustic and semi-literate persons and do not have knowledge of worldly affairs, it is quite natural for some delay to occur... Therefore, the Tribunal ought to have considered the claim application in a positive and magnanimous way. The approach of the Tribunal in dismissing the claim application only on the ground of delay is not correct and liable to be set aside... the delay in preferring the claim application is hereby condoned," said Justice Hanchate Sanjeevkumar.

The order was passed recently while allowing the appeal filed by Renuka and other family members of the deceased, Basavaraj, questioning the Tribunal order dated March 21, 2018, dismissing their claim on grounds of delay. On July 8, 2016, Basavaraj, travelling from Kalaburagi to Nalwar station, had died in a railway accident.

The applicants, who are the mother, wife and children of the deceased, filed a claim application for compensation. However, the Tribunal dismissed the application only due to a delay of 472 days in filing the claim, saying it was barred by limitation.

The court noted that the delay can be considered in a positive and magnanimous way considering judicial notice of the status and living conditions of the applicants, who have lost their breadwinner. When a breadwinner dies, the life of the applicant becomes miserable with mental agony, hardship, inconvenience and financial constraints. Under these circumstances, it is difficult for the applicants to approach the Tribunal and file the claim application when their very existence is a struggle, the court said.

EXPRESS READ

Kerala BJP leader found dead in hotel room at Kannur

Kannur: A local BJP leader was found dead in a hotel room in Kannur on Saturday morning. G Saji Gopal, 50, a native of Pulibasar in Chelannoor, Kozhikode, and a member of the BJP Chelannoor area committee, was discovered unresponsive at the Sneha Inn Hotel in Bakkalam. According to Thaliparamba police, preliminary findings suggest that he died due to a brain hemorrhage. Saji had checked into the hotel at 8.30pm on May 23. He was employed as a regional sales manager at Exaro Tiles. The mortal remains of Saji was cremated on Sunday at Westhill crematorium.

Alzheimer's patient dies after home nurse assaults him

Pathanamthitta: A 60-year-old Alzheimer's patient who was under treatment after being assaulted by his caregiver passed away in Pathanamthitta on Sunday. The victim, Sasidharan Pillai, a resident of Thekkekkara in Pandalam and a retired BSF soldier, had been bedridden for seven years. According to the police, he was assaulted by home nurse Vishnu, 37, from Kollam, who had been hired through an agency in Adoor just six weeks prior to the incident. Investigation revealed that Vishnu used a stick and a belt to repeatedly assault the patient, causing multiple injuries, including a fractured backbone

Phone tapping case: Telangana cops reach US officials

Hyderabad: Telangana police has reached the US Department of Homeland Security Agency to deport Phone tapping main accused T Prabhakar Rao to India. He left the country on the next day after the case was registered in March 2024, and has been abroad since then. A source confirmed that the police requested to deport him. The police have informed the US authorities that his passport was revoked and he is illegally residing in the US.

LACK OF TRANSPORT

Elderly woman carried in basket to hospital

The slushy road at Shiraguni village of Sirsi taluk. (Inset) 75-year-old woman being carried in a basket | EXPRESS

SUBHASH CHANDRA N S
@Shiraguni (Uttara Kannada)

IT was late evening in the remote Shiraguni village in Sirsi taluk recently when 75-year-old Mahadevi Subbraya Hegde broke her leg after she slipped and fell in her house. It was dark and she was in need of urgent medical attention. With the mud road having become slushy and slippery due to heavy rainfall, Mahadevi had to be carried in a bamboo basket made by the locals for 5 km to finally reach the hospital in Sirsi, which is about 40 km away from Siraguni village.

This is not an isolated case. Many such incidents have taken place in this village which has 50 houses and is home to 300 people. The villagers have been facing serious problems due to lack of roads and communication network. The village earlir had bus service but it was stopped five years ago. "Ours is the last village on the border of Sirsi and Ankola. Bus service to the village was discontinued five years ago as there is no motorable road. This makes transportation a nightmare here," said Bhageerathi Bhat a local resident. Another abandoned bus stop and unmetalled slushy road during monsoon stands testimony to the negligence by the authorities.

Another resident Raghavendra Hegde said the bus service was stopped immediately a few days after it was started in the village. The bus movement started kicking up dust due to which people starting falling sick.

Nagya Siddi, another resident, said the villagers have given a memorandum to local MLA Bhimanna Naik, but no action has been initiated.

Since there are no roads, the existing muddy roads are washed away when it rains. The roads are almost non-existent during monsoon. We have to dump mud to ensure that at least two-wheelers are able to reach the village. This too became a big problem for the commuters as they have to inhale the dust

Raghavendra Hegde, Resident

अंग्रेजी एवं विदेशी भाषा विश्वविद्यालय
हैदराबाद - ५०० ००७
THE ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES UNIVERSITY
(A CENTRAL UNIVERSITY) HYDERABAD - 500 007

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION No. II/2025

The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, a Central University, invites online applications from the eligible candidates for the posts of **Registrar, Finance Officer, Controller of Examinations, and Librarian** through Direct Recruitment [OR] Deputation on Tenure basis in the **Pay level -14 (Rs.1,44,200 to Rs.2,18,200)** as per 7th CPC pay matrix.

Those candidates who applied against the **Notification No. I/2024**, dated 18.03.2024 need not apply again. However, they can update their credentials online by giving reference to their previous application number. They need not pay the application fee again.

The detailed Notification along with online application forms, information of the eligibility criteria such as Essential Qualifications, Experience, Age, and General instructions is available on the University's website www.efluniversity.ac.in. The last date for receiving the online applications is 25.06.2025

Date: 26.05.2025 Sd/- REGISTRAR I/c

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RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.59,16,764/- (Rupees Fifty Nine Lakh Sixteen Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Four only)** as on **18-11-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **19-11-2024** onwards, other expenses and any other dues to the bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) Mr. Raghu Raman, S/o. Venkatesh.D, No.22, 1st P Main, Muniswarappa Block, Ganganagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560032. No.2) Mrs. Varalakshmi, W/o. Venkatesh.D, No.22, 1st P Main, Muniswarappa Block, Ganganagar, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560032. No.3) Mr. A.Ankith, S/o. Andanaiah, No.7/2, 1st Main Road, Aangamagai Behind Binny Mill, R T Nagar, Bangalore - 560032.**

Immovable Properties Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Raghu Raman, S/o. Venkatesh.D)

All that Piece and Parcel of the Southern Portion of the Residential Property Bearing Survey No.88, Present BBMP Khatha No.59/88/1, No.D.A.516/2013-14, Earlier Portion of BBMP Khatha No.DA/271/2013-14, Situated at Chikkanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Duly Converted From Agricultural to Residential Purpose Vide Converted Order No. ALN (NAY), SR.No.272 and 273/2007-08 converted by Special Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore, Measuring : Eastern Side : 165 Feet, Western Side : 170 Feet, Northern Side : 111.2 Feet, Southern Side : 111.8 Feet (165 + 170) Feet and (110 + 111.2) / 2 totally Measuring 18,592.5 Square Feet and Bounded on : East by : Remaining Property in the same Survey Number belongs to Sri. S. Raja and Others, West by : Remaining Property in the same Survey Number belongs to Sri. S. Raja and Others, North by : Road, South by : Government Rock.

Schedule - B : (Property Owned by Mr. Raghu Raman, S/o. Venkatesh.D)

(Description of Undivided Share in Schedule - A Property) Proportionate undivided Share of 241.5 Square Feet, in the Schedule - A Property According to Schedule - C and Total Super Built-up Area.

Schedule - C : (Property Owned by Mr. Raghu Raman, S/o. Venkatesh.D)

Residential Flat Bearing No.310, 3rd Floor, Having a Super Built-up Area of 1,050 Sq.Ft. of RCC Roofing, Consisting of Two Bedrooms, built with Bricks and Cement Walls, Vitrified Flooring, Wood Doors and Aluminum Framed Windows and provided with Separate Electricity, Water Supply and Sanitary lines from the common pipelines in the building known as OMEGA ASTER With one covered Car Parking in Stilt Floor.

Reserve Price : Rs.29,00,000/-
(Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh only) (For Schedule : A, B & C)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
24-06-2025	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-R.T.Nagar Branch, No.590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032. Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No. 9342855177.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself/herself. (2) The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-R.T. Nagar Branch, No.590, HMT Layout, 4th Cross, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore - 560032.** (3) The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. (4) For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-23337000, Cell No. 9342855177.** (5) The property/ ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. (6) The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. (7) The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. (8) The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. (9) The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. (10) The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. (11) The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 23-05-2025 Authorised Officer

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, CIN - L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, Fax : 0435-2431746, Website : www.cityunionbank.com

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ODISHA STATE AIDS CONTROL SOCIETY (OSACS)
(Department of Health & Family Welfare), Government of Odisha.)

Tender / Bid No.325 / OSACS Date 20/05/2025
File no.: XV-Proc.-13/2025

NOTICE INVITING BID
FOR HIRING OF PETROL / DIESEL VEHICLES FOR OFFICIAL USE ON MONTHLY BASIS

E-106: Orissa State AIDS Control Society (OSACS), H & FW Deptt., Govt. of Odisha, 2nd Floor, Oil Odisha Building, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-12 invites sealed tenders under **two bid systems** from the interested and eligible bidders for **Hiring of Petrol / Diesel Vehicles for Official Use on Monthly Basis**. The tender documents in prescribed formats should be submitted to the address as mentioned above through **Registered Post, Speed Post and Courier** only. For more details, please visit website of OSACS i.e. https://osacs.odisha.gov.in and download the tender documents. The Date of availability of Tender Document is **26/05/2025, 11.00AM** & Closing Date & Time of Receiving of Sealed Tender **16/06/2025 upto 5.00PM.**

OIPR-10009/11/0044/2526 Sd/- Project Director

MCC BANK LTD
ESTD 1912
Admin office; MCC Bank Building, Hampankatta, Mangaluru 575001 Phone: 0824-2421369, 2445742.
Email: hohrd@mccbank.in Website: www.mccbank.in

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

The Mangalore catholic co. operative Bank Ltd, Mangalore invites applications from eligible candidates to fill the following 10 vacancies through written examination and interview from 26.05.2025 onwards.

No	Position	Salary Range	No.of Vacancies
1	**Senior Assistant**	21600-40050	2
2	**Junior Assistant**	20000-36300	8
	Total		10

Details of application form/qualification/age limit/application fee/selection procedure/certificate to be enclosed, terms and conditions are available on the bank's website: www.mccbank.in. Eligible candidates can download the application and apply personally/by post/courier on or before 09.06.2025 by 5.00 pm.

Place : Mangalore On behalf of staff recruitment committee
Date : 23.05.2025 Sd/- General Manager

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department,
Special Division, Hunsur

IFT No: 02/2025-26 Date: 22-05-2025

Short Term tender Notification

(Through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka the undersigned has invited itemised tender for 3-works related to Hunsur Division as per terms and conditions of "standard tender documents" KW-3 & KW-4 from the eligible registered contactors under PWD through kppp Portal. Maximum amount put to tender Rs. 356.06 lakhs and Minimum amount put to tender Rs.84.73 lakhs, Maximum EMD amount of Rs.5,34,090/- and Minimum EMD amount of Rs.1,70,000/- Tender documents is downloaded from the https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in website Dt: 22.05.2025 and Last date for submission of filled tender documents is Dt: 02.06.2025 upto 16.00 Hours. Period for completion of works (including monsoon) Maximum 6-Months & Minimun 3-Months For more details visit the undersigned during office working hours.

Note: (1)The employer reserves the rights to Reject or Accept any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons. (2) Tender extension/Addendum/Corrigendum etc, will be notified only in KPP Portal and will not be published in news papers.

Sd/- Executive Engineer PWD,
Special Division, Hunsur

DIPR/DDMYS/245/KSMCA/202/2025-26

EDITORIAL

"Youth may be headstrong, but it will advance its allotted length" — Helen Keller

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

GAZA WAR IS A CASE OF FREE SPEECH VERSUS LOYALTY TEST FOR TRUMP

AT a time when the Trump administration is fixed on purging academic campuses of pro-Palestinian activists, two staffers of an Israeli embassy were shot dead by a lone assailant in Washington. They were exiting a Jewish museum, barely two kilometres from the White House, when the gunman pulled the trigger. The killer later entered the museum and raised 'Free Palestine' slogans as security forces took him into custody. The Washington shooting is an awful instance of how geopolitical strife can ignite lone-wolf violence, putting diplomatic personnel and civilians at risk worldwide.

There can be no justification for taking any human life under whatever pretext. However, anti-semitic toxicity is at its highest across the world, most of which is self-inflicted. Whatever sympathy Israel had in the wake of the brutal Hamas incursion of 2023 that killed 1,700 people in Israel has evaporated after its blistering counterattack that has left at least 52,000 people in Gaza dead. Particularly heart-wrenching was the bodies of nine of a doctor's 10 children, killed in a recent Israeli airstrike, arriving at a Gaza hospital where she was attending to patients.

Despite Israel's scorched earth policy that has nearly razed Gaza, the Hamas militia continues to survive in its tunnels and hold hostages, though their support systems from Iran and Hezbollah have largely weakened. Instead of actively pursuing a negotiated settlement for the release of hostages, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has expanded the war and choked humanitarian aid, leading to global outrage. Israel's closest allies are also no longer on the same page—the UK has paused trade talks, France and Canada have threatened sanctions, and the EU has begun reviewing a bilateral pact.

The US, however, remains an outlier. President Donald Trump has conflated criticism of Israel with anti-Semitism, stifling free speech instead of addressing the root causes of protests on university campuses. He appeared implacable as he announced a crippling fund squeeze on Ivy League universities and barred Harvard from foreign student intake unless it shared information on participants of the anti-Zionism protests on its campus. That hung out to dry around 7,000 international students, about 800 of whom are Indians, before a court stayed the unsound Trumpian order. The clash of civilisations appears to be at its peak and needs no further escalation.

CREWED MISSIONS AHEAD, ISRO NEEDS ZERO-FLAW OPS

THE May 18 failure of India's workhorse Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket to deliver sophisticated earth observation satellite EOS-09 to its intended orbit in space is a hard knock for the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

The four-stage PSLV-C61 launcher lifted off with the EOS-09 satellite sharp at 5.59 am from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota. The first two stages performed reliably, but the problem began after the third stage fired. The PSLV-C61 lost thrust, and the remaining third and the fourth stage (latter nestling EOS-09) crashed into the sea. ISRO Chairman V Narayanan suspects it happened due to a fall in pressure in the PSLV-C61's third-stage motor chamber carrying Hydroxyl-terminated Polybutadiene as the solid propellant.

Rocket propulsion experts understand that pressure in a rocket motor's combustion chamber can fall due to changes in the burning rate and surface area of the propellant or from issues within the nozzle, whether erosion or burning surface area. This caused a loss of thrust, preventing the PSLV-C61 from reaching the intended altitude of 534 km to release EOS-09 in its orbit and crashing about five minutes after launch.

The EOS-09 carried a much-improved Synthetic Aperture Radar payload to provide images for various earth observation applications through thick clouds and at night. The SAR employs radar signals to create high-resolution images of terrestrial features, immensely benefiting environmental monitoring, emergency response, national security and military reconnaissance applications.

The mission failure came at a crucial juncture, that too with its much-trusted PSLV launcher, a go-to launch vehicle with a high success rate throughout its history since 1993. The Indian space programme is looking ahead at ambitious, high-stakes and costly missions—the main ones being the crewed space mission, Gaganyaan, in 2027; the launch of an indigenous space station, BharatiyaAntriksh Station, by 2035; and sending the first Indian astronauts to the Moon by 2040. These missions are more complex than the crewless PSLV-C61/EOS-09 mission, which involved parking the satellite in its sun-synchronous polar orbit and letting it serve its data users.

ISRO and the Union government may be aware that many of the future missions are high-stakes ones involving human astronauts, mandating zero-error operations. Going ahead, ISRO, India's premier space agency, must ensure that its future mission paths have absolutely no room for errors or failures.

QUICK TAKE

ALGORITHMIC ACCOUNTABILITY

GROK, offspring of Elon Musk's xAI, recently faked information about "white genocide" in South Africa, prompting the developer to blame "unauthorised" human intervention. The concession calls for regulatory mechanisms to check algorithmic adulteration and the possibility of manipulated silent bias fiddling with human reality. AI geeks and governments await a showdown in the US where a judge has asked Google and character-ai to face a mother's lawsuit claiming their chatbot abetted her minor son's suicide. The judge ruled the chatbot's "human-like text responses" aren't free speech. How chatbots make decisions and what data they use must become public knowledge. Transparent anti-bias and tamper-proof mechanisms will make developers and deployers accountable.

If the Supreme Court can set aside the presidential order under Article 356, there is no reason why the President's powers or that of the Governor are not subject to judicial review

LEGAL PROCESS MUST PREVAIL OVER FACE-OFF

KAPIL SIBAL
Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha

SOURAV ROY

ON May 14, 2025, the President of India, exercising her powers under Article 143 of the Constitution, sought the Supreme Court's opinion on the imposition of timelines for the President and the Governors to act under Articles 200 and 201. The President referred fourteen questions to the Supreme Court for its opinion.

This was apparently necessary because of the judgement of the Supreme Court's Bench comprising Justices J B Pardiwala and Justice R Mahadevan on April 8, 2025. Before dealing with the questions, it is essential to set out the context in which they were raised.

This case refers to the Tamil Nadu legislative assembly, which passed 12 Bills and forwarded them to the Governor between January 13, 2020, and April 28, 2023, for his assent under Article 200. These Bills lay dormant till October 2023. The Governor's inaction led to filing a petition requiring the Governor to act.

Under Article 200, if a Bill passed by the Legislature is presented to the Governor, he may either assent to the Bill or withhold assent therefrom. The Governor is required to give his assent as soon as possible. This reflects that he must do so expeditiously despite no fixed timeline. The Governor can also return a bill to the Legislature for reconsideration. If the Legislature, upon reconsideration, passes the Bill with or without amendments, the Governor cannot withhold assent therefrom.

The Governor may also reserve the Bill for consideration of the President, who, under Article 201, may either give or withhold his assent. Though no timeline has been prescribed, it must be implied that the President will do so expeditiously.

It is in this context that issues relating to the interpretation of Articles 200 and 201 were raised before the Supreme Court, which decided as follows:

In this case, the Governor had returned the Bill to the Legislature, which, after reconsideration, passed it again. The Court held that the pendency of the Bills for unduly long periods, almost three years, shows scant respect by the constitutional authorities towards their obligations. Therefore, exercising its inherent powers under Article 142, the Court declared that the Bills were deemed to have been passed on the day they were presented to the Governor after being reconsidered by the Legislature on November 23, 2023.

The Court said that all constitutional authorities must perform their role as friends, philosophers, and guides and should not be guided by political expediency. This decision led to the aforesaid reference, which seeks, in a way, to set aside this historic judgement.

A caveat before I deal with the issues raised in the reference. While the Governor, under Article 200, exercises his discretion, the President has no such discretion, for she can only act on the aid and advice of the Council of Ministers.

One question relates to constitutional options before the Governor when a Bill is presented to him. A bare reading of Article 200 makes it clear that the Governor, in this context, exercises his functions in his discretion. Another question relates to the constitutional immunity available to the President and the Governor under Article 361 being absolute. Immunity relates only to acts done in their personal conduct, during their term of office, and not decisions taken in their constitutional capacity.

If the Supreme Court can set aside the presidential order under Article 356, there is no reason why the President's powers or that of the Governor are not subject to judicial review. The Court has prescribed a time limit of three months, which is reasonable in the context of the Governor sitting over the Bills for three years. Another question relates to the exercise of discretion by the President once a Bill is reserved for his consideration. That, too, is justiciable if the President chooses to keep the Bills pending, waiting for the term of the Assembly to expire.

Another question is whether the President is required to take the Supreme Court's advice on a Bill reserved for his consideration. The answer is yes. However, such advice should not seek to set aside the decision of the Supreme Court indirectly.

Yet another question relates to whether decisions of the Governor and the President under Articles 200 and 201 are justiciable at a stage before the Bill becomes law. If answered in the affirmative, it would result in the breakdown of the constitutional machinery.

The will of the people reflected in the bills passed for public good would then be subject to executive discretion by the Governor. They may never see the light of day if the Governor sits over them for years. Can judicial orders substitute the constitutional powers of the President and Governor is yet another question that was referred. They surely can be if constitutional authorities choose not to act. Another question is whether a law, given effect without the assent of the Governor, is valid.

Obviously, laws can be deemed to have been passed if constitutional authorities do not discharge their constitutional obligations.

Whether the Court should have referred the matter to a larger constitutional bench is a matter that courts have the power to decide. The question of whether, under Article 142, the power of the Supreme Court is limited to procedural laws is an unthinkable proposition. Directions under Article 142 can indeed be issued if there is a hiatus to discharge constitutional functions. The question of whether such a dispute can be decided under Article 142 of the Constitution, it being regarded as a conflict between the State and the Union and thus parties must file a suit under Article 131 of the Constitution, is also an unthinkable proposition as the Constitution provides for how Bills are to be cleared.

It is unfortunate that the government has opted for a confrontational approach instead of pursuing established judicial processes, first by filing a review petition and then, if necessary, a curative petition to set aside this judgment. Such a confrontation between the Executive and the Judiciary is to be avoided at all costs.

All such references do is muddy the waters and make constitutional functions the victim of political expediency.

(Views are personal)
(Tweets @KapilSibal)

THE TURMERIC MASK ON PATRIARCHY'S FACE

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

LIKE many of you, I was taken aback by the shameful, unwarranted putdowns of Colonel Sofiya Qureshi and Himanshi Narwal, one, a valiant soldier whose great-great-grandmother fought alongside Rani Lakshmi Bai, the other bravely transcending her devastating personal loss to urge peace and clarity.

I got to thinking about the possible root cause, and the only answer I could come up with was the patriarchy's fundamental lack of respect for women. Don't get me wrong. I am proud of Hindu reform, entirely thanks to which I stand upright as its legatee. I love my religion and culture, well, most of it. But, as with every system, it has its dark sides that lash out even today, and I feel we must acknowledge and address that if we wish to walk the path of light.

In our badly socialised society, women, even if they bundle up and shut up, are legit prey for men of all ages. In this nowhere land between myth and reality, a curious folk tale from Tehri Garhwal in Uttarakhand comes to mind.

It's a local story about why turmeric is 'holy'. We know that Western science has empirically proven what we knew long ago, that turmeric has many health benefits. I don't relate to turmeric latte, though; it's too medicinal for me. Like others, I've grown up being dosed on the centuries-old Indian home remedy for cough, cold and congestion: a cup of warm milk with turmeric and black peppercorns, honey added to make it tolerable, drunk last thing at night so it can take its proper healing effect while you sleep, which means no staying up watching *Netflix*.

While it's been proven that turmeric has many healing properties, this folk tale about its 'holiness' is a complicated frappé of health, religion and culture. It valorises the super-healer rhizome, which is fine. But it openly supports the male right to roam by making the hero a god. Thereby, its message is 'boys will be boys': after all, boys are gods on earth. It's an easy excuse that I heard even my father make indulgently every time my brother crossed the line.

The tale goes that there was once a very pretty girl called Kusumba Kohli. Narayan (Vishnu, no less) fell in love with her and tricked her into meeting him. However, Kusumba's husband, Kaindhu Kohli, found out and chased after Narayan. Kaindhu was a sturdy, determined young man, and Narayan had to run very fast. He hid, panting, in a patch of colocasia (arbi) that grew overground those days, but its broad leaves shook in fright, and Narayan's hiding place was discovered.

"You failed me; may you grow underground hereafter," said Narayan to the arbi, and ran next to hide behind a banana tree. But the slender banana tree could not hide Narayan. "May you bear fruit but once a year, on just one stem," scolded Narayan and ran to hide behind some rocks.

A dog snoozing there was startled and began barking, and Narayan had to run again. "You're not a bad creature, but stones will come your way for talking too much," said Narayan crossly as he scurried away. Kaindhu was gaining ground, and Narayan was growing desperate.

PEXELS

A folk tale about turmeric's 'holiness' reveals how mythology can serve as a tool of patriarchy, masking questionable male behaviour with religious sanctity and embedding gender hierarchies within seemingly benign cultural practices, such as wedding rituals that honour the spice

He ran around the hill and threw himself into a leafy patch of wild turmeric. The long leaves closed gently over him and stayed still as Kaindhu went pounding by.

When it was safe to emerge, Narayan blessed the turmeric. "You shall have a place of honour at every wedding and auspicious event. No happy ceremony can take place without you," he said. Isn't it extraordinary how innocent plants and animals were co-opted to legitimise the uncontrolled behaviour and emotional incontinence of the male of our species?

So, there is no denying that women in Indian culture occupy an ambivalent position. In the traditional Indian mindset, the Devi, or prime goddess of Hindu theology, is enthroned on a pedestal to be worshipped as the sacred feminine. The position of Devi or Shakti is thus greatly exalted. She is worshipped as the *Parashakti*, or Supreme Power, as the *Jagadamba*, the Universal Mother who created the male gods and their feminine counterparts.

How does this translate vis-a-vis the situation of mortal women? In reality, Indian tradition discounts mortal women unless they deliver the goods in their prescribed role in the service sector. In particular, the position of the respectably married woman is supreme in Hindu society. As in any other transactional relationship, this status comes at a price.

This 'pragmatic' attitude towards women springs from the false Hindu belief that only a son can save a man from hell called *put*: hence the term *Putra* for son—the 'deliverer from put'. A wife was the socially endorsed conduit for this outcome, of no use unless she produced a healthy son. Indian patriarchs mostly did not see wives as precious individuals. Any eligible woman from the caste pool would do to keep their life going.

Of course, there were rebels and breakaways, but this has been the holding pattern for millennia in both deeply conservative and superficially modern swathes of society. This entrenched attitude still plays out in millions of ordinary Indian lives despite the number of educated women in many spheres of national life, the result of steady Hindu reform. Something to think about, isn't it, when even morally decent women can be called 'the sister of terrorists' and a 'traitor' with such casual disrespect?

(Views are personal)
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Undeserving honour

Ref: *Pakistan's path to martial perdition* (May 25). India has had only two Field Marshals: Sam Manekshaw (1973) and KM Cariappa (1986), recognised for their valour and service. Gen Munir lacks any qualifications worthy of Field Marshal Rank. He is known for his support for Jinnah's two-nation theory, and his facile recitation of Quranic couplets.
Parthasarathy Mandadi, Tirupati

Learn lessons

Ref: *Flood of woes, drought of action* (May 25). Learning from mistakes is a rare skill in this country. Before the monsoon, desilting lakes to increase water storage and unclogging stormwater drains to ensure rainwater can flow freely and not enter homes should have been obvious priorities.
H P Murali, Bengaluru

Dream big

Ref: *Why filmmakers can't do without Cannes* (May 25). The Indian film industry often celebrates the global recognition of commercial cinema. However, there's an urgent need to acknowledge the deeper, long-term benefits of markets like Cannes, especially for regional and indie filmmakers. These forums aren't just about showcasing glamour—they're where ideas turn into deals and dreams find distributors.
Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi

New dawn

Ref: *Touch of hinterland as Gill set to lead Team India* (May 25). Good decision by the selectors to recall proven performers like Karun Nair and Shardul Thakur, while giving Sai Sudharsan, Abhimanyu Eshwaran, and Arshdeep Singh the opportunity to prove their talent. Overall, a good roadmap.
C V Aravind, Chennai

Beyond politics

Ref: *Modi chants Centre-state unity mantra to achieve Viksit goal* (May 25). The Centre must practically demonstrate federal spirit and mutual understanding, setting aside politics for the sake of unity. States, too, should cooperate with the Centre without political considerations.
Jayaprakash Reddy, Nalgonda

Oil spill

Ref: *Kerala coast on oil-spill alert as container vessel lists off Kochi* (May 25). The recent capsizing near the Kochi coast of a huge mother ship carrying containers loaded with toxic cargo poses a serious environmental threat. India must seek compensation.
B V Thampi, email

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Mamata Banerjee @MamataOfficial
My heartfelt tributes to the renowned sculptor Ramkinkar Baez on his birth anniversary. He is the creator of extraordinary creations like 'Santal Parivar'.

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath
Under PM's guidance, & with schemes like 'National Beekeeping' and 'Honey Mission', the 'New India' has increased the honey production by about 60%.

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
BJP leaders are insulting the Indian Army and martyrs, which exposes their low mentality. RS MP Ram Chander Jangra's recent remarks prove that.

MPs' delegation to US led by Shashi Tharoor says India's message to terrorists very clear — 'You started, we replied'

Op Sindoor: Artillery firepower played key role in hitting terror targets

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

> The Army had deployed Bofors, M777 and Soltam guns for maximum effect and every target was pulverised the way we had planned
>
> A source

THE Indian Army's Artillery arm played a major role in hitting terror targets in Pakistan and PoK under the Operation Sindoor jointly executed by the Air Force and the Army.

Of the nine terror targets, seven were destroyed by the Army, sources involved in the operation said. "The Artillery guns were put to a precise and optimal use in destroying the seven identified terrorist camps in the PoK," a source said.

"The Army had deployed Bofors, M777 and Soltam guns for maximum effect and every target was pulverised the way we had planned," added the source. Another source said, "The ongoing modernisation, including the induction of drones, new ammunition and the guns improved indigenously, added to our target destruction".

The drones were initially deployed for surveillance and then they were serving as the additional eyes for gun position officers who directed the guns for precision strike. "The result was as per expectations," sources said.

Along with the Indian Army's Air Defence, the artillery carried out the maximum destruction of all the seven terrorist camps which were within a band of 6 to 16 km from the Line of Control. The precision strike also involved the use of Excalibur artillery ammunition inducted in 2019. This ammunition is capable of hitting the targets up to 50 km range.

Artillery is one of the oldest arms which was raised on September 28, 1827. The Army aims to transform artillery from being the "arm of influence" to the "arm of decision'. A major modernisation plan continues which will change the profile of the arm, sources said.

As reported by this newspaper, the Indian Army has taken several steps to counter the supply chain issues caused by ongoing global conflicts while carrying out the 'mediumisation' of guns.

'We didn't want to start anything, but ...': Tharoor

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

'Ushered in a new norm'
Shashi Tharoor said that post-Pahalgam attacks, India has ushered in a new norm in dealing with cross-border terror sponsored by Pakistan.

EMPHASISING that India has been a victim of terrorism for decades, Congress MP and the leader of the all-party delegation Shashi Tharoor said that post-Pahalgam attacks, India has ushered in a new norm in dealing with cross-border terror sponsored by Pakistan.

In an interaction hosted by the Consulate General of India in New York with members of the Indian-American community and individuals from media and think-tanks, Tharoor said that India's message to Pakistan has been clear: "We didn't want to start anything".

Tharoor is leading a delegation of MPs to Guyana, Panama, Colombia, Brazil, and the US, conveying India's resolve against terrorism and emphasising Pakistan's deep-rooted links to terrorism.

"We were just sending a message to terrorists. You started, we replied. If you stop, we stop. And they stopped. There was an 88-hour war. We look back on that with a great deal of frustration because it needn't have happened at all. Lives have been lost. But at the same time, we look back on this experience with a steely and renewed determination," he said.

"There is now got to be a new norm. No one sitting in Pakistan is going to be allowed to believe that they can just walk across the border and kill our citizens with impunity. There will be a price to pay, and that price has been going up systematically," Tharoor said.

India has focused on a very different narrative from some of its neighbours. "Our focus for some years now has been on being the world's fastest growing free markets democracy, attempting to focus on the development of our economy, our emphasis on technology and pulling large numbers of people from below the poverty line," Tharoor said.

He highlighted the dastardly manner in which the tourists were singled out and targeted based on their religion, and the retaliatory measures taken by India through Operation Sindoor, which targeted terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir through precision strikes. He also listed various terror attacks — from 26/11 to attacks in Uri and Pulwama — carried out in India by terror outfits backed by Pakistan.

"India is not interested, and we still remain absolutely clear, we are not interested in warfare with Pakistan. We would much rather be left alone to grow our economy and put our people into the world of the 21st century," he said.

The delegation includes Sarfaraz Ahmad (JMM), Ganti Harish Madhur Balayogi (TDP), Shashank Mani Tripathi (BJP), Bhubaneswar Kalita (BJP), Milind Deora (Shiv Sena), Tejasvi Surya (BJP), and India's former Ambassador to the US Taranjit Sandhu.

The delegation visited the 9/11 memorial in New York to pay respects and convey India's shared experience with the US in fighting terrorism. "We went to the Memorial of September 11 to send a message that New York also suffered due to the issue of terrorists twenty years ago, this is our experience as well. We want them to understand that solidarity is essential in this matter," he said.

NDA CMs send out unity message for Viksit Bharat

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

IN a show of unity, the chief ministers and their deputies of 20 NDA-ruled states on Sunday reiterated their commitment to a 'Viksit Bharat' (developed nation). They collectively hailed the bravery of the armed forces during the Operation Sindoor and praised PM Narendra Modi's leadership during the counter-terrorism operation.

"We will walk together, move forward together, and together build a developed Bharat," NDA leaders resolved, according to insiders. Two key resolutions were adopted at the meeting—one celebrating the success of Operation Sindoor, and the other concerning the caste enumeration recently announced by the government as part of the upcoming decennial census. The CMs resolved to expose the party responsible for imposing the Emergency, as its 50th anniversary approaches on June 25-26 June this year.

PM Modi, who chaired the conclave, said in a post, "We had extensive deliberations about various issues. Various states showcased their best practices in diverse areas including water conservation, grievances redressal, strengthening administrative frameworks, sports and more."

Modi shared that he emphasised the need to accelerate development and ensure that the benefits of a double-engine government reach the people effectively. "Spoke about building stronger synergies in key areas—be it cleanliness, sanitation, healthcare, youth empowerment, agriculture, technology and more," the PM said.

After the conclave, BJP president JP Nadda said, "On 25 and 26 June, 50 years of Emergency will be completed. NDA will expose it and will inform the public about those people who tried to strangle democracy".

The gathering brainstormed on development and other issues of good governance, including practices being implemented in NDA-ruled states. "As a united force, we reaffirmed our collective resolve to build a 'Viksit Bharat'. We stand firmly against caste-based politics and remain committed to uplifting the poor, deprived, and marginalised sections of society, ensuring their full participation in the nation's progress," he said.

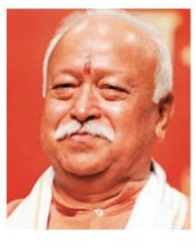
Quoting the PM during the meeting, Nadda said that Modi emphasised the importance of building an 'Atmanirbhar' and 'Saksham Bharat' (capable India), where every citizen contributes meaningfully to India's developmental journey.

The drive against Maoists was also discussed, with the Chhattisgarh CM detailing the strategy adopted by the state.

Home Minister Amit Shah elaborated on the strategy against Naxalism and updated the meeting on its progress.

Bhagwat says no option but to be powerful in face of evil forces at our borders

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi



RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has called for unity in the Hindu society and making Bharat so mighty in military power and economy that it cannot be conquered even if multiple powers come together. He, however, said that 'shakti' (strength) should be combined with virtues and righteousness because "a brute power" can be directionless leading to "blatant violence".

"India has no option but to be powerful as it has been witnessing the wickedness of the evil forces on all its borders in the past," Bhagwat said in an interview published in the latest issue of RSS-linked magazine 'Organiser'. "We must strive for strength. As we pray through the daily prarthana (prayer): 'Ajayyam cha visvasya dehisa saktim' (Grant us such strength that globally we are invincible)," he said when asked to share the RSS's vision on national security, military strength and economic power.

Narrating the journey of the RSS from 1925, he said that the goal of the Sangh is "to work for overall development of the Rashtra by protecting dharma, culture and society." He said Hindustan is a Hindu Rashtra. "The entire Hindu society is the custodian of this nation. The nature and sanskriti of this country is Hindu. Therefore, this is a Hindu Rashtra," the RSS chief said.

When asked about Hindus being targeted in Bagladesh, he said, "Someone will worry about Hindus, only when Hindus are strong enough. As Hindu society and Bharat are intertwined, a glorious nature of Hindu society will bring in glory for Bharat."

Bhagwat said India must not be dependent on others for internal security. "We should be able to defend ourselves. No one should be able to conquer us, not even if multiple powers come together," he asserted.

"Hindu society must awaken now. Forgetting divisions and selfishness, we need to shape our personal, family, social and professional life based on the 'dharmik' values rooted in Hindutva. That will pave the way for a powerful, righteous and self-reliant Bharat," he added.

SC says playing cards without gambling no moral turpitude

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

PLAYING cards for entertainment and recreation without an element of betting and gambling does not involve moral turpitude, the Supreme Court has recently said as it restored the election of a man in a cooperative society in Karnataka.

A two-judge bench, led by Justice Surya Kant and also comprising Justice N Kotiswar Singh, in its verdict, noted that one Hanumantharayappa YC, who was elected to the board of directors of Government Porcelain Factory Employees Housing Co-operative Society Ltd, was allegedly fined ₹200 without any trial when some persons, including him, were caught playing cards on roadside.

The verdict came after hearing a plea filed by Hanumantharayappa, who was removed from the post following a Karnataka High Court ruling.Deciding in favour of Hanumantharayappa, the SC said that playing cards for fun without gambling isn't a moral crime.

"In the very nature of things, we find it difficult that the misconduct attributed to the appellant involves moral turpitude. It is well known that the expression moral turpitude is used in legal as well as societal parlance to describe a conduct, which is inherently base, vile, deprave or having some connection showing depravity. Every action against which one can raise an eyebrow may not necessarily involve moral turpitude," the bench said.

It set aside the HC's order upholding the decision to remove Hanumantharayappa from the post in the cooperative society.

AI ambitions: Software strength meets hardware hurdle

VISMAY BASU @ New Delhi

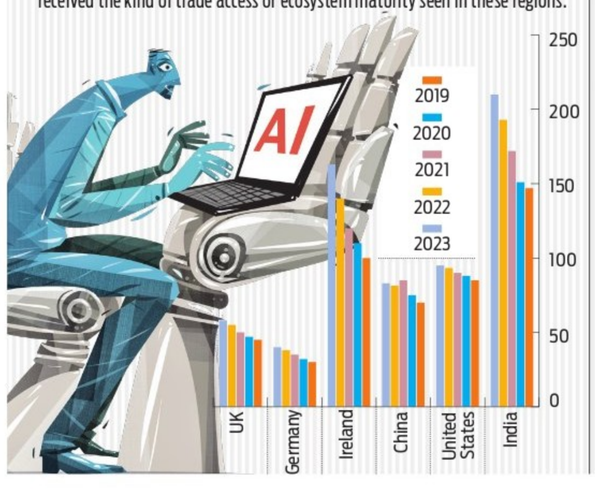
INDIA is making an assertive push toward AI self-reliance through a set of national policies aimed at reducing dependence on foreign technologies. Flagship programmes like the National Strategy for AI (#AIForAll) and the IndiaAI Mission focus on inclusive innovation, expanding compute capacity, and building sovereign data ecosystems. Complementary efforts such as Bhashini, the DPDPA 2023, and the National Semiconductor Mission target responsible AI, data protection, and domestic chip manufacturing.

India's strength in software is well established. With over 1.5 million engineers graduating annually and global tech giants hiring extensively in the country, India is the world's largest exporter of software and IT services. This software edge forms the bedrock of its AI ambitions.

INDIA'S SOFTWARE & ICT SERVICES EXPORTS

(USD BILLIONS, PAST 5 YEARS)

However, building a complete AI ecosystem also demands robust hardware capabilities—an area where India currently lags. Chip design and fabrication remain concentrated in countries like China, South Korea, and Japan. Despite some cost advantages following tariff shifts during the Trump era, India has not received the kind of trade access or ecosystem maturity seen in these regions.



GLOBAL SEMICONDUCTOR ECOSYSTEM READINESS – INDIA VS. PEERS

A major bottleneck is talent. While India produces a large number of engineers, it lacks the specialized workforce needed for high-end semiconductor design and fabrication. Countries like China have spent decades developing this talent pool.

COUNTRY	US TARIFF RATE ON ICT/ELECTRONICS (IN %)
China	125
Vietnam	46
Taiwan	32
India	26
South Korea	25
Japan	24
Malaysia	24
European Union	20
Israel	17
Mexico	10

ESTIMATED FABRICATION ENGINEERS – INDIA, CHINA, SOUTH KOREA

India's AI policy framework is strong, but achieving full self-reliance will require matching its software dominance with serious advances in hardware. Without that, the vision of an end-to-end indigenous AI ecosystem will remain out of reach.

COUNTRY	DESIGN ENGINEERS	FABRICATION ENGINEERS
India	250,000-300,000	<5,000
China	250,000-300,000	100,000-150,000
Israel	30,000-40,000	<1,000
South Korea	60,000-80,000	150,000-180,000

INSIDER TRACK

'Go far and wide with Op Sindoor'

BJP MPs, senior leaders, and other NDA allies are understood to have been asked to promote the success of Operation Sindoor as widely as possible through their social media platforms, including X. "Every detail which showcases the abilities of our armed forces must be amplified globally and within the country to make their bravery public," remarked a BJP functionary. He added that Union cabinet ministers have also been mobilised to popularise government achievements under Prime Minister Modi and highlight the success of Operation Sindoor's success. A source remarked that the suggestion appears to have spurred a competition of sorts, with "everyone in the cabinet and in organisational roles engaged in a global digital race to ensure Modi's reach extends across the world."

Who will replace Chaturvedi in RIS?

After a two-year pause, Nalanda University finally has a full-time vice-chancellor. Economist Sachin Chaturvedi has taken charge, succeeding Sunaina Singh, who served a notably extended six-year term. As he steps into his new academic role, Chaturvedi has also been asked to continue as Director General of the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based government think tank. RIS, supported by a Governing Council that includes the ministries of external affairs, economic affairs, finance, science and technology, and commerce, is a multi-country platform that advises developing nations on regional and global economic issues. With Chaturvedi juggling both hats, the Ministry of External Affairs has begun looking for a full-time replacement at RIS. The brief? A candidate with at least 15 years of experience in research and teaching in economics or a related field—including five years as a professor. Unsurprisingly, this has piqued the interest of many former bureaucrats and policy veterans keen to throw their hats into the ring. Traditionally, the RIS has maintained a balance of scholarly and diplomatic heft: its president is a former Indian Foreign Service officer, while the DG is typically an economist—a mix that keeps the numbers and the nuance in check.

With power, comes sense of neglect

With BJP's dramatic takeover of the Delhi government, its MPs now feel like political outcasts on their turf. Previously, the BJP held all seven Lok Sabha seats in Delhi, but it was out of power. During that time, party workers and sympathisers would turn to the MPs for assistance or to voice grievances. Now that the saffron party has dethroned AAP and seized the reins of Delhi, all eyes—and grievances—have shifted to the newly empowered MLAs and ministers. The once-crowded offices and residences of BJP MPs usually wear a deserted look, leaving them struggling to adjust to their diminished local role.

'Karmayogi of Month' — DoPT way

The Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) has implemented a unique and innovative way to celebrate the birthdays of department personnel and make public announcements of the names of the 'Karmayogi of the Month'. The DoPT, which functions from the North Block, has put up a huge LED display screen at the entrance at Gae No. 4, listing the birthdays of personnel daily. The names of the employees with their pictures appear on the screen amid virtual firecrackers and the words "Happy Birthday" in bold. The display screen alternatively announces the names of the "Karmayogi of the Month" with the tagline "Top Learner of DoPT on iGOT Karmayogi Platform" and offers congratulations for their achievement.

Money matters in keeping babus happy

In a major relief to Union government employees, the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) recently issued an order saying that those retiring a day before the annual pay hike is announced will get a notional increment for the calculation of their pension. The Centre announces employee pay hikes on January 1 and July 1. Therefore, those who retire on December 31 and June 30 will be eligible for the notional increment. An office memorandum was issued earlier this week.
Rule 10 of the Central Civil Services (Revise Pay) 2006 norms stipulates that the date of annual increment was made uniform by fixing July 1 every year from January 1, 2006. However, in 2016, by amending Rule 10 by inserting (1), the government decided that there should be two dates for the grant of increment: January 1 and July 1. The new decision gives retiring employees an increased retirement benefit.

UNDER FIRE

Police have arrested a 22-year-old man and are looking for three more persons for allegedly setting a house on fire to harm a woman and her family in western Mumbai, an official said on Sunday.

3 MEMBERS OF FAMILY DROWN IN GANGA IN UP'S RAEBARELI

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	41	29	Mumbai	30	27
Bhopal	35	27	Panaji	30	28
Jaipur	38	31	Patna	30	26
Amritsar	37	28	Lucknow	35	28
Chennai	34	28	Port Blair	29	27
Kolkata	31	27	Imphal	26	22
Srinagar	27	14	Chandigarh	36	27

■ Voting slated for June 19 and counting on June 23 ■ Battle lines drawn, may not be a cakewalk for Punjab ruling party

EC declares five Assembly bypolls across four states

Bengal poll fight

The byelection to the Kaliganj Assembly seat in West Bengal has been necessitated due to the death of sitting Assembly member Nasiruddin Ahamed.

A triangular contest

The bypoll to the Visavadar seat in Gujarat is taking place due to the resignation of sitting member Bhayani Bhupendrabhai. The byelection to the seat is likely to be a triangular contest, with AAP announcing its candidate and Congress stating it would go solo.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

THE Election Commission of India on Sunday announced the schedule for holding Assembly bypolls to fill vacancies from two segments in Gujarat and one each in Kerala, Punjab and West Bengal. Voting for the same will take place on June 19 and counting on June 23.

In Gujarat, the bypoll to the Kadi seat was necessitated following the death of sitting MLA Karsanbhai Punjabhai Solanki. Another bypoll to the Visavadar seat in the state is taking place due to the resignation of sitting member Bhayani Bhupendrabhai. The byelection to the Visavadar seat is likely to be a triangular contest, with the AAP already announcing its candidate and Congress stating that it would go solo in the bypoll.

In Kerala, the byelection will be held in Nilambur to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of PV Anvar, an LDF-backed MLA, in January this year. He was appointed convenor of the Kerala unit of the Trinamool Congress (TMC). The ruling Left Democratic Front and Opposition UDF in Kerala are working overtime to fix their candidates for the seat.

Further, in Punjab, the byelection will be held in Ludhiana West as the seat fell vacant because of the demise of Gurpreet Bassi Gogi. Likewise, the byelection to the Kaliganj Assembly seat in West Bengal has been necessitated due to the death of sitting Assembly member Nasiruddin

Ahamed. He died of a cardiac arrest in February this year.

Earlier, on May 23, in line with various initiatives aimed at enhancing voter initiative and streamlining poll day arrangements, the ECI had issued two more comprehensive instructions for providing mobile deposit facilities for voters outside the polling stations and rationalising norms for canvassing, according to an official statement.

The instructions are in line with the relevant provisions of the Representation of the People Act of 1951 and the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961.

Further, in a move aimed at improving facilities on the polling day, the ECI has also rationalised the permissible norms for canvassing in line with the electoral laws to 100 metres from the entrance of the polling station. The booths set up by the candidates on poll day for issuing unofficial identity slips to voters not carrying the official ones can now be set up just beyond 100 metres of any polling station.

AAP hopes to cling on to its Ludhiana West seat

Seat vacant after death

This seat fell vacant after the demise of AAP MLA Gurpreet Gogi earlier this year. All three major political parties in the state have already announced their candidates.

In the bypoll fray

AAP has named Rajya Sabha member Sanjeev Arora, an industrialist now known for his work in social welfare. The Congress has fielded former minister and two-time MLA from this seat, Bharat Bhushan Ashu. The Shiromani Akali Dal has nominated Parupkar Singh Ghuman.

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

WITH the announcement of byelections to the Ludhiana (West) Assembly constituency in Punjab, to be held on June 19, the battle lines are drawn.

The ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) hopes to retain the seat, but given the recent electoral history of this segment, the bypoll is not likely to be a cakewalk for the party, especially after its rout in the Delhi Assembly elections.

According to the schedule released by the Election Commission of India (ECI), an official notification will be issued on May 26. The last date for filing nominations is June 2, and scrutiny of the papers will take place on June 3.

Candidates can withdraw their nominations until June 5. The counting of votes will take place on June 23. With this, the Model Code of Conduct has come into immediate effect.

This seat fell vacant after the demise of AAP MLA Gurpreet Gogi. And all three major political parties in the state have already announced their candidates. AAP has named Rajya Sabha member Sanjeev Arora, an industrialist now known for his work in social welfare.

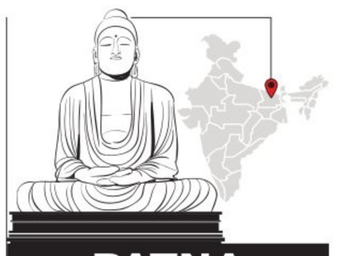
The Congress has fielded former minister and two-time MLA from this seat, Bharat Bhushan Ashu. The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has nominated Parupkar Singh Ghuman, while the BJP is yet to announce its candidate.

A few days ago, AAP supremo and former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal launched the party's campaign for the upcoming Assembly bypoll. In last year's parliamentary elections, AAP's Ashok Parashar alias Pappi finished a distant third on the Ludhiana Lok Sabha seat, which was won by Amarinder Raja Warring of the Congress.

Ravneet Singh alias Bittu of the BJP, who was earlier in Congress and the sitting MP from this seat, finished second. Out of the nine Assembly segments under the Ludhiana Lok Sabha constituency, including Ludhiana (West), the BJP led in five urban constituencies, and the Congress in four segments. The ruling AAP failed to lead in any of the nine segments.

It was a similar situation in the Municipal Corporation Elections in December last year. AAP won 41 out of 85 wards, falling short of a majority by seven seats, while Congress won 30 and BJP secured 18 wards. Notably, the wives of the then MLA Gurpreet Gogi (who is now deceased) and Ashok Parashar lost from their respective wards.



PATNA DIARY

RAMASHANKAR

Our correspondent in Bihar

ramashankar@newindianexpress.com

No tilak? No Hindu: Saraogi on Tejashwi

Senior BJP leader and Bihar minister Sanjay Saraogi mounted a blistering attack on RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav during a recent media interaction, calling into question his Hinduness. Saraogi pointed out how the RJD leader had reportedly wiped off the tilak off his forehead shortly after leaving the temple premises during his visit to the Ahilya Mahotsav in Mithila. He alleged that Tejashwi and his ilk only visit a temple for optics. The saffron party leader insisted to the press that the Yadav scion is a "fake Hindu" and that he cannot be trusted at any cost. But he didn't stop there. He also claimed that Tejashwi has lost his credibility as a politician.

Prashant Kishor as Jan Suraaj Party's CM face

Jan Suraaj Party's newly elected national president and two-term former MP from Purnea Uday Singh created a flutter in the state's political circles when he revealed during a media interaction that Prashant Kishor would be the party's chief ministerial candidate. This is remarkable because Kishor has stated emphatically on numerous occasions that he doesn't harbour any aspiration to become the CM and that he entered politics just to bring about a positive change in the state. So, how did Kishor change his mind? And more important, since the party will go solo in the Assembly polls later this year, how will the move affect its fortunes?

PM Modi lauds state for hosting youth games

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was all praise for Bihar in the 122nd episode of his monthly Mann Ki Baat radio programme as he dwelt on the Khelo India Youth Games hosted by the state government. Modi duly patted Bihar on the back for organising the mega sporting event successfully in five cities across the state. He also highlighted Bihar's warm hospitality and sporting spirit, noting that this was the first Khelo India Youth Games broadcast globally via The Olympic Channel. He lauded all medal winners and lavished much praise on the teams from Maharashtra, Haryana and Rajasthan for securing the top three positions in the competition. Notably, more than 5,000 athletes from across the country participated in the event, showcasing exceptional talent and sportsmanship.

Tribal woman, a mother of two, gang-raped and beaten to death

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

IN a shocking incident, a 45-year-old woman — mother to two young boys — was was allegedly gang-raped by two men (both neighbours) aged between 30 and 38 years in Khalwa area of southwestern Madhya Pradesh's Khandwa district.

She was subsequently kicked in the lower abdomen by one of the accused, causing severe injury to her private parts and profuse bleeding. She died hours later.

Both the accused, who hail from the same Korku tribe to which the woman also belonged, have been arrested and booked for murder and gang rape. Importantly, the woman and the accused knew each otherv ery well.

According to sources associated with the ongoing police probe, the woman went with her neighbour Hari Palvi to a marriage in the village on Friday evening. She and Hari along with another woman returned from the marriage late at night. While the other woman went to her home, the middle-aged woman, who was the mother of two sons (aged 20 and 22 years) went with Hari to his house, where they were joined by another man, Sunil Korku. Primary probe suggests that the trio had consumed liquor before the ghastly incident.

IN BIRSA LAND

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla paid tributes to tribal icon Birsa Munda at the Birsa Munda Memorial Park cum Freedom Fighter Museum in Ranchi on Sunday. Later, he addressed a gathering on the occasion of the platinum jubilee celebration of Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Jamshedpur. Birla is on a two-day visit to Jharkhand. | EXPRESS

Protesters scuffle with security men near Raj Bhavan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

TENSIONS flared in Manipur's capital, Imphal, on Sunday as security personnel fired tear gas shells and mock bombs to disperse protesters marching towards the Raj Bhavan.

The demonstrators were responding to a call by the Meitei organisation Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), which is incensed with Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla for not issuing an apology over a recent incident involving a government-run bus.

According to reports, a media team travelling to Ukhrul in a bus to cover the Shirui Lily Festival was allegedly instructed by security personnel en route to conceal the words "Manipur State Transport" displayed on the vehicle.

COCOMI condemned this as an act that "undermines the identity, pride, and respect of Manipur" and has since announced a series of protest programmes, including a civil disobedience campaign and a public boycott of the Governor.

In line with this campaign, protesters marched towards the Raj Bhavan on Sunday but were stopped by the security forces, resulting in a scuffle. Five protesters were reportedly injured and hospitalised following the confrontation.

COCOMI expressed deep dissatisfaction over the response of the security forces.

"The deployment of such aggressive crowd control measures against unarmed civilians, including women, is deeply concerning," the organisation said, demanding an immediate halt to such "hostile" actions and a thorough review of security protocols.

Meanwhile, a seven-member COCOMI delegation is scheduled to leave for New Delhi on Monday for a meeting with the Ministry of Home Affairs on Tuesday.

The meeting will aim to follow up on the resolutions adopted during the Manipur People's Convention held in Imphal on 3 May 2025, marking the second anniversary of the ethnic conflict.

COCOMI stated that the agenda will also include a demand for a public apology from the governor for the perceived insult to the people of Manipur, as well as the resignation or immediate transfer of the Chief Secretary, the Director General of Police, and the Security Advisor — all of whom are deemed "incompetent" and "responsible for anti-state decisions that have worsened the situation."

CAT issues contempt notice to cab secy

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE Nainital Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has issued contempt notices to three of India's most senior bureaucrats: Cabinet Secretary TV Somanathan, Union Health Secretary Apurva Chandra, and Central Vigilance Commission Secretary P Daniel.

The notices relate to the downgrading of IFS officer Sanjeev Chaturvedi's appraisal report. This marks a historic first, as it is reportedly the initial instance a Cabinet Secretary has received such a notice in a service matter.

The action reportedly stems from a February 23, 2023, order. It was prompted by Chaturvedi's application seeking documents related to high-profile corruption inquiries he conducted during his tenure as Chief Vigilance Officer. Chaturvedi alleges his 2015-16 appraisal report was downgraded because of these steps, leading him to file his original petition in July 2017.

These contempt notices arise from a petition filed by whistleblower IFS officer Sanjeev Chaturvedi in December 2023, alleging non-compliance with previous tribunal orders.

Docs braved Pak shellings for service of villagers

FAYAZ WANI @ Rajouri

AS the Poonch and Rajouri districts of Jammu and Kashmir bore the brunt of Pakistani troops' artillery shelling after 'Operation Sindoor' was launched on May 7, the doctors at two government hospitals in the twin border districts remained at the frontline, attending to patients having splinter injuries and trauma cases.

"It was a war-like situation," said Dr Amarjeet Singh Bhatia, Principal of Government Medical College and Associated Hospital, Rajouri. "There was fear all around as shells were landing close by. The shelling also took place in the area around the hospital and we could hear loud explosions in the hospital," Dr Bhatia said.

Immediately after the shelling started, an emergency was declared in the hospital and all doctors, para medics and other staff were alerted to be present in the hospital. "None of us left the hospital for four days. We prepared the hospital basement for the staff and others, and everybody chipped in. The doctors did not follow roster duty but worked 24x7 during the four days of shelling and not a single doctor or paramedics left the hospital during those four days," he said.

Thirty patients were brought to the hospital after the shelling. Of them, three including a top government official were declared brought dead while the 27 others were treated. "Three of the patients were very critical. But doctors performed multiple surgeries on them and kept them under observation and fortunately they are now stable and out of danger," the principal said.

In Poonch district, worst hit by Pakistani shelling, the doctors at the District Hospital worked overtime to attend to the injured. The patients had started arriving in the hospital from 4 am on May 7, said Medical Officer Dr Rubina.

"The emergency rooms were flooded, beds were full, and critical supplies stretched thin, yet no patient was turned away. All doctors, paramedics and other staff in the hospital were attending to the injured patients and ensuring they get the best treatment," the medical officer said. Not only Rubina but her husband, who is Medical Superintendent of the hospital, worked overtime to attend to the injured patients.

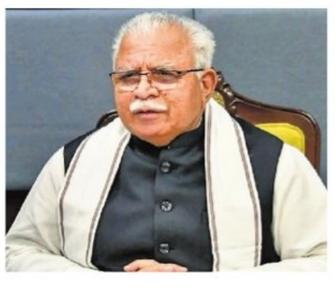
Khattar on damage control overdrive over BJP MP's remarks on Pahalgam

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

UNION Power Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on Sunday said the comments by BJP Rajya Sabha MP from Haryana Ram Chander Jangra reflected his personal opinion and should not be interpreted as the party's stance. He added that the BJP has distanced itself from Jangra's remarks.

A political controversy erupted after 75-year old Jangra said the women who lost their husbands during the Pahalgam terror attack lacked the determination to fight back. He went to say that proper training under Agniveer scheme could have reduced the casualties.

During his visit to Karnal, Khattar emphasized that Jangra has already issued a clarification and expressed regret. "He (Jangra) expressed a sentiment, but it was presented in the wrong context. Making comments about women who have lost their husbands is not appropriate. It was indeed a mistake, and he has expressed regret. I too believe that this issue should now be considered closed," the minister said.



Jangra is not new to controversies. He had earlier made controversial comments on the farmers' protest, which he later retracted. Haryana BJP state spokesperson Sanjay Sharma said, " People in public life ought to choose their words carefully while speaking on a public platform."

Congress MP from Rohtak Deepender Singh Hooda condemned Jangra's remarks, saying they are despicable. "In the Pahalgam attack, terrorists devastated the lives of those women by killing their husbands. Now, this BJP MP from Haryana, Ramchandra Ji, is attacking their dignity. This is an extremely despicable remark," Hooda wrote on X.

500+ migrants rescued off Greek island recently

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	26	11	LC	Los Angeles	17	10	SNY
Colombo	32	25	TDS	Melbourne	18	13	LC
Dhaka	34	27	LC	Moscow	5	0	LC
Dubai	42	31	SNY	New York	14	6	LR
Houston	30	22	LC	Singapore	31	25	TDS
Istanbul	17	12	LR	Toronto	8	1	LC
London	17	8	SNY	Washington	23	8	TDS

12 killed as Russia launches largest missile and drone attack in Ukraine

Strikes came even as the two completed their biggest prisoner swap since the war began

KYIV

RUSSIA launched a record number of drones against Ukraine and killed 12 people across the country, officials said on Sunday, even as Kyiv and Moscow completed their biggest prisoner exchange since the start of the war.

Ukraine's emergency services described a night of "terror" as Russia launched a second straight night of massive air strikes, including on the capital Kyiv.

The attacks came even as the two countries completed their biggest prisoner swap since Moscow launched its full-scale invasion in February 2022, with 1,000 captured soldiers and civilian prisoners exchanged by each side. The death toll from the latest Russian strikes included two children, aged eight and 12, and a 17-year-old, killed in the northwestern region of Zhytomyr, officials said.

Their school named the dead children as Roman, Tamara and Stanislav in a post on Facebook, saying: "Their memory will always be with us. We will never forgive".

This handout photograph taken and released by Ukrainian State Emergency Service Press Service on May 25, 2025 shows firefighters operating on burning houses following Russian strike in Kyiv region on Sunday | AFP

"Without truly strong pressure on the Russian leadership, this brutality cannot be stopped," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said on social media. "The silence of America, the silence of others around the world only encourages Putin," he said, adding: "Sanctions will certainly help." The European Union's top diplomat, Kaja Kallas, called for "the strongest international pressure on Russia to stop this war". "Last night's attacks again show Russia bent on more suffering and the annihilation of Ukraine. Devastating to see children among innocent victims harmed and killed," she said on social media.

The renewed strikes came after Russia launched 14 ballistic missiles and 250 drones overnight Friday to Saturday, which wounded 15, according to Ukrainian officials.

Ukraine's military said on Sunday it had shot down a total of 45 Russian missiles and 266 attack drones overnight.

Air force spokesman Yuriy Ignat said a total of 298 drones were launched, adding that this was "the highest number ever". Four people were also reported dead in Ukraine's western Khmelnytskyi region, four in the Kyiv region, and one in Mykolaiv in the south. Emergency services said 16 people were also injured in the Kyiv region, including three children, in the "massive night attack". Flights at Moscow airports were disrupted because of temporary closures due to Ukrainian drone activity but no injuries were reported, officials said. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS

Prabowo Seeks Investment in Tech, Industry

President Prabowo Subianto urged Chinese businesses to invest in Indonesia's science, technology, education, health, and tourism sectors, beyond just natural resource downstreaming. Speaking at the Indonesia-China Business Reception in Jakarta, attended by Premier Li Qiang, he called China a strategic partner and praised joint successes like the Jakarta-Bandung high-speed rail. Prabowo emphasized diversifying investments to boost high-value industries and urged Indonesian entrepreneurs to see China as a production and learning partner.

Millions Found in Thai Temple Scam Probe

Thai police probing the Wat Rai Khing embezzlement case found suspect Aranyawan Wangthapan, 28, acquired over 41 million baht in assets within a year—despite previously earning just 30,000 baht monthly from a vegetable stall. Her property spree began after associating with the now-detained abbot. Authorities are also investigating another couple tied to the temple, who own 23 vehicles and assets worth over 100 million baht. Investigators suspect links to illegal gambling and real estate brokering. The Anti-Money Laundering Office is now tracing the origins of the wealth.

Israel's strikes in Gaza kill 38 people including children

DEIR AL-BALAH

ISRAELI strikes over the past 24 hours killed at least 38 people in Gaza, including a mother and her two children sheltering in a tent, local health officials said Sunday, with no data available for a second straight day from now-inaccessible hospitals in the north.

Further details also emerged of the local doctor who lost nine of her 10 children in an Israeli strike on Friday.

Gaza's Health Ministry said 3,785 people have been killed in the territory since Israel ended a ceasefire and renewed its offensive in March, vowing to destroy Hamas and return the 58 hostages it still holds from the October 7, 2023, attack that triggered the war.

Israel also blocked the import of all food, medicine and fuel for 2 1/2 months before letting a trickle of aid enter last week, after experts' warnings of famine and pressure from some of Israel's top allies. Israel has been pursuing a new plan to tightly control all aid to Gaza, which the United Nations has rejected.

Israel also says it plans to seize full control of Gaza and facilitate what it describes as the voluntary migration of much of its population of over 2 million Palestinians, a plan rejected by Palestinians and much of the international community. Experts say it would likely violate international law. The new strike on the tent housing displaced people that killed the mother and children occurred in the central city of Deir al-Balah, according to al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital. A strike in the Jabaliya area of northern Gaza killed at least five, including two women and a child, according to Gaza's Health Ministry.

Only one of pediatrician Alaa al-Najjar's 10 children survived the Israeli strike on their home Friday near the southern city of Khan Younis. Both the 11-year-old and al-Najjar's husband, also a doctor, were badly hurt. The charred remains of the other children were brought to the morgue in a single body bag, said a fellow pediatrician at Nasser Hospital, Alaa al-Zayan. *AP*

WAR WATCH

ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 598

TOLL SO FAR

52,971

Artist Caravaggio's faith shines in new Rome exhibit, churches run by Pope Leo

ROME

THE Roman basilica of the Augustinians — Pope Leo XIV's religious order — preserves an iconic painting of the Virgin Mary by Caravaggio, the blockbuster artist who revolutionised the use of light and darkness in Western art.

A new exhibit of works by the Baroque painter is now on view in Rome until July 6, allowing for an updated look at his connection with spirituality. From the Pilgrims' Madonna at the Basilica of St. Augustine to the Martyrdom of St. Ursula that closes the "Caravaggio 2025" exhibit, art historians and clergy are highlighting the connections between religious belief and Caravaggio's "chiaroscuro."

"It's the light that directs us toward what for him are the key points of the story," exhibit curator Francesca Cappelletti said about the artist's spotlight on the main characters that emerge from encroaching darkness. "Our life experience makes sense only if invested by a spiritual light."

In the Augustinian Madonna, dating from the early 1600s, what hits the viewer at eye level are the dirty soles of a ragged pilgrim couple's feet as they kneel by the apparition of the Virgin Mary. She leans casually against a door frame as she holds a toddler-size Jesus.

It's a far cry from the usual otherworldly, genteel depictions of most Madonnas. That makes it even more poignant within Augustinian spirituality, because it illustrates the encounter between man's nature and God's mercy, said the Rev. Pasquale Cormio, the basilica's rector.

Tourists admire the Pilgrims' Madonnaat the Basilica of St Augustine in Rome | AP

"We see God's wish to show himself to humankind as someone who walks alongside the poor," Cormio said. "It's certain that this Virgin Mary is close to a perhaps tired, perhaps wounded, certainly dirty humanity that is burdened by daily life." The name of the Pilgrims' Madonna references not only the two figures before Mary, but also the fact that on this spot, the Augustinians have welcomed pilgrims en route to the nearby Vatican since the end of the 13th century.

It was to commemorate a pilgrimage to Loreto — a shrine in central Italy where tradition says Mary's house was miraculously airlifted — that the painting's well-connected patrons commissioned it, said Alessandro Zuccari.

A member of Italy's prestigious Accademia dei Lincei, he wrote the chapter on spirituality in the Caravaggio exhibit catalog. *AP*

German min urges 'serious talks' with US about 50% tariffs on EU imports

BERLIN

GERMAN Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil on Sunday urged "serious negotiations" with the United States after President Donald Trump threatened to bring in 50% tariffs on imports from the European Union.

Trump made the threat on Friday, saying "discussions (with the EU) are going nowhere" and adding that the tariffs would be applied from June 1 -- just a week away.

German Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil

If imposed, they would dramatically raise Washington's current baseline levy of 10 percent, and fuel simmering tensions between two of the world's economic heavyweights. Klingbeil told the Bild newspaper that "we don't need any further provocations, but serious negotiations" and added that he had spoken with his US counterpart Scott Bessent about the matter.

Trump said on Friday that he is "not looking for a deal", repeating his long-standing view that the EU -- conceived to seal postwar peace in Europe -- "banded together to take advantage of us".

Klingbeil said that "the US tariffs endanger the US economy just as much as the German and European economy".

Stock markets fell in the wake of Trump's comments amid fears of renewed global economic disruption. The US dollar also took a beating.

The EU's trade chief Maros Sefcovic reacted to Trump by saying the bloc was "committed to securing a deal that works for both" and that trade relations "must be guided by mutual respect, not threats". Klingbeil reiterated Germany's support for the EU in handling the talks with the US. *AFP*

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act.) read with Rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said Rules). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the said Rules, the Authorised Officer of IIFL Home Finance Ltd. (IIFL HFL) (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) has issued Demand Notice under section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s), to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, to the Borrower(s) to pay within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest from the date(s) of Demand Notice till the date of payment. The detail of the Borrower(s), amount due as on date of Demand Notice and security offered towards repayment of loan amount are as under:-

Name of the Borrower(s) /Guarantor(s)/	Demand Notice Date & Amount	Description of Secured asset (immovable property)
Mr. Abbur Varadaraju Kirankumar Mr. Arun Kumar A V Mrs. Kamalamma **Prospect No IL10180506**	**20/05/2025 ₹1254617.00/-** (Rupees Twelve Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Six Hundred & Seventeen Only)	All that piece and parcel of the property being: E-Khatha No: 152900100700700893, Khatha No 597, Property No 152900100700700893, Abduru Village, Channapattana TQ, Kasba Hobli, Ramnagar District, Karnataka, India , 562160 Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land_area, Carpet_area, Built_up_area Property Area: 600.00, 817.34, 1021.68 Bounded By: North: Road South: House Of Mr. Ningaiah East: House Of Mr. Subramani West: House Of Mr. Madde Siddaiah
Mr. Kadaramangala Marisiddegowda Pramodkumar Mrs. Bhagyamma Silk Business, **Prospect No IL10545986**	**20/05/2025 ₹927958.00/-** (Rupees Nine Lakh Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred & Fifty Eight Only)	All that piece and parcel of the property being: Property No 109/107, E Swathu No. 152900101501001777, Situated At M.b. Halli Village, Channapatan Taluk. Ramanagar District, Karanataka 562160 Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land_area, Built_up_area,carpet _area Property Area: 4002.00, 3021.00,2417.00 Bounded By: North: Gowramma Property South: Road East: Govt Road West: Kempana House
Mr. Naganna Mrs. Rukminiyamma Shrikanteshwara Wood Work **Prospect No IL10720999**	**20/05/2025 ₹807130.00/-** (Rupees Eight Lakh Seven Thousand One Hundred & Thirty Only)	All that piece and parcel of the property being: Property No.80 Eswathu No. 152900101400300100 Situated At Santemogenahalli Village Kuduru Hobli, Channapatnam Taluk, Ramanagar District,karantaka-562121 Area Admeasuring (in Sq. Ft.): Property Type: Land_area, Built_up_area, Carpet_ area Property Area: 2092.50, 1152.80,922.20 Bounded By: North: Road South: House Of Raju Tammanbhar East: House Of Kuntegowdas Puttaswamy Gowda And Chikkegowda West: Ravi Thammannas House

If The Said Borrower Fail To Make Payment To IIFL HFL As Aforesaid, IIFL HFL May Proceed Against The Above Secured Assets Under Section 13(4) Of The Said Act, And The Applicable Rules, Entirely At The Risks, Costs And Consequences Of The Borrowers. For Further Details Please Contact To Authorised Officer At **Branch Office :** 1st Floor, Manjunatha Sankeerna, BM Road, Ijoor, Ramanagara-562159 Or **Corporate Office :** IIFL Tower, Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Ph-iv Gurgaon, Haryana.

Place : Ramnagara **Sd/- Authorised Officer,**
Date : 26.05.2025 **For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.**

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED

(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

TENDER NOTICE

File No. Tender No: CMRL-P1-PMC-01-2025 **Dated 26-05-2025**

e-procurement tender
e-Tender No. CMRL-P1-PMC-01-2025

CMRL invites open e-tender through e-procurement portal from reputed, experienced, financially sound, eligible applicants, who fulfil the qualification criteria as mentioned in the tender through National Competitive Tender (NCB) under Single Stage Two Envelope (Technical and Financial) system for the works as detailed below:

"Selection of Project Management Company (PMC) for Project Management Consultancy Services (PMCS) and Detailed Design Consultant (DDC) for Chennai Metro Rail Phase 1 Network Capacity Enhancement Project"

Please refer the websites for further information.

1) **www.chennaimetrorail.org** or
2) **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**

For Managing Director
Chief General Manager (RS, S&T)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited

DIPR/2530/TENDER/2025

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited

(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031.
Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	114925604	Loan Against Property	1. CHANNAKRISHNA D 2. PUTTAMMA D	30.04.2025	INR 5,35,951.40/-

Property Address : All That Piece And Parcel Of The Property Bearing No. 128/192 Having Rdpr Unique Code No./property No. And E-Katha No. 152900201102100127 According To Form No. 11b Issued By The Office Of The Rural Development & Panchayath Raj, Chakanahalli Grama Panchayathi, Measuring East To West: 7.9248 Mtr. And North To South 19.2024 Mtr., In Total Measuring 152.18 Sq. Meters And Thereon Building Measuring 152.18 Sq. Meters, Situated At Cheeranakuppe Village, Cheeranakuppe Dhakale, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District, Karnataka-562117, And **Bounded As : East By :** House Of Ningamma **West By :** Property Of Channegowda **North By :** Remaining Property **South By :** Govt. Road

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)** as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)**. Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-
Authorized Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
Date : 26.05.2025 **(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited**
Place : RAMANAGARA, KARNATAKA **and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)**

HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES

HDB Financial Services Ltd.

Registered office:- Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009.
Contact Address:- HDB Financial Services Limited., No.195/38, 1st Floor HDFC Building, 10th Cross Road, HDFC Building Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, **and also at:** HDB Financial Services Limited., Zenith House, Opposite Race Course, Mahalakshmi, Mumbai-400034.

DEMAND NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Overdraft facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No. & Product	Name of Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Mortgagors	O/s. As per 13(2) Notice	NPA Date	Notice Date
1	6969608, 16405249	**1. Hotel New Panchavati Multicusion Family,** No.54/54 17th Cross Mrcr Layout Vijayanagar Bangalore-560040 Karnataka And also at: No.273 8th Main Road, 6th Cross, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040. **2. Purushothama Shankar ,** No.273, 8th Main Road, 6th Cross, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040, Karnataka. **3. Mambika,** No.273, 8th Main Road, 6th Cross, RPC Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040, Karnataka. **4. Shankar Narayanappa,** No.273, 8th Main Road, 6th Cross Rpc Layout Vijayanagar Bangalore-560040 Karnataka.	Rs. 23,90,008.25	04-04-2025	15-04-2025

Schedule of the Securities-I:- All that Piece and Parcel of the Southern Portion of Property Bearing No.273, 6th Cross, 7th Main Road, RPC Layout (ASO Associtation), Ward No.34, Bengaluru Measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 15 Feet. **North:** Portion of the same property of Jayamma, **South:** Site No.25S, **East:** Site No.25S, **West:** Site No.272

The above borrowers and /or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (wherever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Further more, this is to bring to your attention that under Section 13 (8) of the SARFAESI Act, in case our dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by us are tendered at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by us, and no further step shall be taken by us for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 26-05-2025, Place: Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDB Financial Services Ltd.**

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, the undersigned bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **Mr Mohanraj C S/O Chikkalingaiah, and Mrs H S Shobharani W/O Mohanraj C,** Residing at No.192, 1st Main Road 8th and 9th cross, Chamarajpete, bangalore South, Bangalore-560018. Both are lost the Original Gift Deed Document No.CMP-1-02374/2021-22. Dated:19-08-2021, both are lost at Near Chamarajpete bus stop, Accordingly both are lodged the complainant on Bengaluru City, Dated on 24-05-2025, with E-Lost report No. 1622180/2025. **SCHEDULE PROPERTY :** All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Old Site No.90, New Site No.156 situated at Albert Victoria Road, Chamarajapete, bengalore measuring East to West : 30 feet, North to South: 108 feet, totally measuring 3240 sq feet, out of this 150 Sq pertains to this gift deed. East to West 30 feet and North to South 5 feet. bounded on **East by:** Revanna house No.89(155), **West by :** Krishnamurthy House No.91(157), **North by :** Road, **South by :** Same site no balance property. If anyone finding the aforesaid documents is hereby requested to handover the same to our office within 7 days at the address mentioned hereunder..

HARISHA S, Advocate
No.2,1st Floor Byranna Building
Madanayakanahalli, Bengaluru - 562125.
Mobile No. 9060950265.

NATIONAL PENSION SYSTEM TRUST (NPS TRUST)

B-302, Tower-B, 3rd Floor, World Trade Center, Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi-110029

PUBLIC NOTICE

UPS benefits for the subscribers retired under NPS on or before 31/03/2025 or their legally wedded spouse

1. Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) introduced by Central Govt, effective from 1st April 2025, are available to past retirees also (*those subscribers who retired on or before 31/03/2025 and had completed a minimum 10 years of qualifying service in Central Govt.*) and for their legally wedded spouse.
2. The following additional UPS benefits are available to such retired employees/ spouse under NPS, and they need not to necessarily surrender the benefits availed under NPS including annuity.

(a) **Lumpsum payment***(one time)* one-tenth of last drawn basic pay and dearness allowance thereon, for each completed six months of qualifying service.

(b) **Monthly Top-up amounts:** This amount is calculated based on admissible UPS payout+Dearness relief (DR) minus representative annuity amount under NPS.

(c) **Simple interest** as per applicable PPF rates **on arrears** with respect to above benefits for the past period.

Note: *The Illustrative examples for UPS benefits to Retirees on or before 31.03.2025 are given under Schedule VII of PFRDA (Operationalization of UPS under NPS) Regulations), 2025* (available on https://www.pfrda.org.in//MyAuth/Admin/ showimg.cshtml?ID=3484)

How to claim the UPS benefits:

Physical mode- The claimant shall be required to submit the filled in applicable Form *(B2- for subscriber & B4/B6 – for the legally wedded spouse)* to the concerned DDO from where the subscriber has retired. These forms can be downloaded from www.npscra.nsdl.co.in/ups.php

Online mode-The claimants need to visit www.npscra.nsdl.co.in/ups.php and fill the online form and submit the same through online mode to DDO for their processing.

Last date to claim the benefits: 30th June 2025.

PFRDA is conducting regular webinar on UPS, details are available at https://www.pfrda.org.in/index1.cshtml?lsid=546

Date:26.05.2025

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₹6,600 CR will be raised by 4 firms as they hit D-Street this week.

SWP for steady income post-retirement

Under a Systematic Withdrawal Plan, one can invest a lump sum in MF & withdraw a fixed amount monthly

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

FINANCIAL discipline is crucial after the age of 60 to ensure your retirement corpus lasts. At the same time, smart investment choices can make your retirement years more financially secure. A steady cash flow becomes essential to meet monthly expenses during retirement.

Not everyone may have opted for a pension plan during their working years, and therefore might lack a regular source of income post-retirement. However, if you have built a sizeable corpus, you can still create a regular cash flow through effective investment planning. One smart strategy is a Systematic Withdrawal Plan (SWP).

Under an SWP, you invest a lump sum in a mutual fund scheme and withdraw a fixed amount every month. While your investment continues to grow, you receive a steady monthly income. This ensures regular earnings while preserving capital, so that by the end of the withdrawal period, you are still left with a significant sum.

SWP, A BIG GAIN

1. An SWP offers both regular income, capital appreciation
2. Investors can consider short-term debt funds, high credit quality corporate bond funds
3. It's important to set your withdrawal amount wisely

For instance, if you invest ₹1 crore in a mutual fund and set up a monthly withdrawal of ₹25,000 over 20 years, you would withdraw a total of ₹60 lakh and could still be left with over ₹2 crore, assuming an average annual return of 6%. If you opt for a ₹50,000 monthly withdrawal under the same conditions, you would have withdrawn ₹1.2 crore and still retain around ₹94 lakh at the end of 20 years.

It's important to set your withdrawal amount wisely so that the corpus lasts throughout your planned retirement period. For example, with a ₹75,000 monthly withdrawal and a 6% annual return, the corpus would be exhausted by the 18th year.

The examples above assume a conservative 6% return, though equity mutual funds have historically delivered over 10% annually in the long run. However, after 60, most investors prefer to avoid heavy exposure to pure equity. An equity-oriented hybrid fund may be ideal in such cases. If you already have a significant portion of your portfolio in fixed deposits or debt funds, and can allocate ₹1 crore to equities, consider starting an SWP from a well-performing large- and mid-cap fund.

According to Vishal Dhawan, a certified financial planner and co-founder of Plan Ahead Wealth Advisors, investors looking to do a SWP for retirement cash flow can consider short-term debt funds, high credit quality corporate bond funds, equity savings funds, balanced advantage funds, arbitrage funds, income plus arbitrage funds.

"You can choose to set up the SWP start date appropriately keeping in mind the exit load free period and your tax bracket," he says.

Another advantage of SWPs is their flexibility—you can adjust the withdrawal amount periodically based on the fund's performance. In this way, an SWP offers both regular income and capital appreciation, making it a smart post-retirement financial tool.

IN CONVERSATION

AMIT JAIN
Chairman and MD, Arkade Developers

'We are planning ₹3,500-4,000 crore projects in FY26'

MUMBAI-BASED realty developer Arkade Developers is planning to launch four projects in the financial year 2026, which will have a combined gross development value (GDV) of ₹3,500-4,000 crore. The company is confident of maintaining a 20% compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) in the short to medium term after reporting a similar growth in FY25. Last week, Arkade reported profit growth of 27.7% at ₹ 157 crore for the year ended March 31, 2025. Revenue for the year rose 9.3% to ₹695 crore. In an interview with TNIE's **Arshad Khan**, **Amit Jain**, chairman and managing director of Arkade Developers spoke about key product launches, competition in Mumbai's housing market, plan for FY2026, the slump seen in housing sales and more. Edited Excerpts:

How was FY2025 for you? What are the big launches coming from Arkade in FY26 and what would be their combined GDV?

We are planning four key project launches this fiscal. The most significant among them is our Filmistan project in Goregaon. We have three redevelopment projects in the pipeline, located in Santacruz West, Goregaon West, and Malad West. Collectively, these four launches are projected to have a GDV in the range of ₹ 3,500 to ₹4,000 crore. We have been achieving a 20% growth historically and we will be achieving the same in the years to come. Our revenue is expected to grow 20% in FY25 at about ₹850 crore.

FY25 marks a year of prominence in which we acquired the legendary 4-acre land parcel in Goregaon, leased to Filmistan Pvt. Ltd, having an estimated GDV of ₹2,000 crore. We acquired land parcels and development rights, cumulating to 17.5 acres in western suburbs with a projected GDV of ₹6,790 crore, including the locations – Andheri, Santacruz, Borivali, Malad and Dahisar. Our expansion strategy into the eastern Mumbai suburbs for the greenfield projects, alongside a solid pipeline of redevelopment projects in the western suburbs, will serve as key growth drivers as we leverage our healthy balance sheet and robust cash flows. Our strategy is aligned with the overall market trend towards luxury housing. With accelerating demand, we are well-positioned to maintain a sustainable growth trajectory.

There is enough room for everyone to grow in this market. Not every buyer has a budget of ₹10 crore and upward. There is a lot of demand for 2BHK properties.

Mumbai's real estate market has become highly competitive with big names such as Adani and Prestige having aggressive pipelines. How do you see this emerging competition for native players like you?

There is enough room for everyone to grow in this market. Not every buyer has a budget of ₹10 crore and upward. There is a lot of demand for 2BHK properties. The redevelopment of old properties is here to stay. There are 20,000 buildings in MMR which are due for redevelopment. There is a big opportunity for us and the other players are also here. Though there is land scarcity in the region, there are many land parcels up for grabs. We are in the process of acquiring a major land parcel in Thane and continue to hold talks with other landowners.

Housing sales have been under pressure for the past two quarters. Do you expect the slowdown to continue?

Housing is one of the biggest human aspirations and the ambition to buy a new house or shift to bigger homes is always there. The slowdown is temporary but the needs of the house will always be there. There are cyclic phases and they cannot eliminate the industry growth as a whole.

Real Estate prices have shot up sharply in recent years. Do you expect property prices to remain at elevated levels?

The cost of construction has gone up significantly, be it raw material prices or the GST levied by government bodies. Land prices too have gone up. I do not control the prices, the market forces do. When the construction cost and land prices will come down, then the prices of property may come down. That being said, buyers may turn cautious due to increasing prices but the requirement for homes will always be there.

MONEY-WISE

INDICES AND ART OF STAYING INVESTED

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

NUMBERS and milestones clearly matter to participants at the stock-market. This becomes self-evident whenever the BSE Sensex touches a new milestone number.

Some months ago, it was 70,000 points and now, it is 80,000 points. Such milestones which are 'celebrated' by the financial media, especially our 'over the top' electronic media also invariably sparks a debate on whether a huge correction or even a crash is round the corner.

If I look back at the journey of the BSE Sensex since the late 1980's, it stood at 510 points in January 1987 and then soared to a new high of 4285 points by January 1992 before dropping to 1991 points within a year in January 1993.

The BSE Sensex then soared once again to 5887 points at the turn of the century in January 2000 before literally halving to 2924 points in January 2003. From a point where all seemed lost, we witnessed a huge secular bull run over the next five years that took the index to 20,873 points in January 2008.

The index once again slipped sharply to 8674 points within a year in January 2009 before making a fresh outbreak in late 2013 to end up at another new high of 28,233 points in January 2016.

At the turn of the decade, earlier this year in January 2020, the BSE Sensex was once again riding a new high at 42,273 points before the Covid pandemic brought it down to its knees at 25,638 points in March 2020.

In just 18 months thereafter, the same index recently touched the 60,000 points mark, reflecting a breathtaking 30,000 plus points uptick in the short span of 18 months.

The onward march to 70,000 points was followed by a dizzying uptick to around 85,000 points followed by FII selling and a bizarre tariff war that brought it down to 70,000 points before a sharp rebound again took it past the 80,000 points mark.

Clearly, there is enough anecdotal evidence to suggest that there is immense merit in staying invested over really long-time frames.

However, a lot depends on the life-cycle stage of the investor and their near-term goals and objectives.

Shut out external noises

While staying put may be the optimal strategy for those with a longer-term horizon for their investment goals and objectives, the same may not be true for someone with nearer term investment goals and objectives.

Similarly, one must also have the discipline to shut out loud external 'noises', in this case those who are perpetual doomsday predictors as well as those with irrational exuberance talking of Sensex levels of 200,000 points at a time when we are still to get past the 100,000 points mark.

So, for all the opinions one hears and reads (including those of yours truly), one must remember, there is no single 'correct' strategy, at all given points in time.

That is why investing is an art and not a science.

MONEY MATTERS

INVESTMENT PROTECTION STARTS WITH YOU

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

THE Securities and Exchange Board of India, the stock market regulator, has warned about unscrupulous entities using social media platforms to fool you. They add you to the so-called 'VIP' groups posing as experts advising rich people. You are then asked to put money into accounts promising higher returns.

In a world where those who cheat have access to technology, you, too, can use the same weapon to protect yourself. If you say 'you are unaware', it is no longer than an excuse. The online world is rich enough to provide basic knowledge of factors influencing your investments. The role of regulators is to provide you with early warning signals. However, the onus is on you to utilise the resources at your disposal.

When your columnist began writing about stock market trends in the 90s, the most common weapon for investor protection professional advisors offered was knowledge. 'An informed investor is a protected investor' went a slogan then. With the enormous amount of information available through artificial intelligence tools and other online resources, you are better equipped to protect your money than an investor in the 90s. The slogan remains the same even today.

Where to begin

Your first step is to read as much as possible. An interplay of interest rates and inflation influences your money. The cost of money is typically the benchmark 10-year government bond yield. It is trending down in India as inflation is relatively low and projected to remain downward. At the same time, the government is managing finances sensibly by keeping the fiscal deficit low. That reduces the borrowing that the government has to do to meet the day-to-day expenditure.

Interest rates and inflation information can be found in the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Statement, published once every two months.

The next meeting is expected in June 2025. You can ask the modern AI tools to summarise and simplify the statement if the analysis in the media or television studios is not enough or simple for your understanding.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Stock markets react to rising interest rates and inflation negatively. Similarly, share prices move upwards if interest rates and inflation trend down consistently. Corporate profitability is at the heart of stock market returns. It is linked to factors like economic growth, interest rates and demand for goods and services.

The RBI also projects economic growth once every two months. It puts out an outlook for the quarters or a year ahead. You simply need to focus on the trajectory that shows higher growth as an investor. Companies that ride on India's economic growth usually grow profits faster. It is usually twice that, as a thumb rule. If India's economy grows at around 6% and corporate profits grow at around 12-13%, share prices are unlikely to grow at a multiple of profit growth rate. They usually follow the trend in corporate profits. That means, if in a particular year they rally 25%, they will eventually fall back to a level where the average return is in line with profits.

All of the above will make sense to you if you are a long-term investor and are staying put. Nobody can promise to double your yearly money based on the market performance. As you choose your advisor, look for registered intermediaries with regulators like Sebi, RBI and IRDAI, the insurance regulator.

No other government entities can regulate intermediaries that sell you stock market, fixed deposits or insurance products. Anybody on social media offering to double your money wants to make money from your hard-earned savings. Be aware of them and stay away. Your task is to cover your bases by reading regularly. It may sound simple, but it requires effort.

Tata Motors paid ₹38,892 core in total global taxes in FY25

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

TATA Motors paid ₹38,892 crore in total global tax and other contributions for FY25, a marginal dip from ₹39,344 crore in FY24, according to its inaugural Tax Transparency Report 2024-25. The report reveals a 9% tax-to-revenue ratio for both years. Direct contributions, including corporate taxes and duties, fell to ₹25,766 crore (66.25% of total) in FY25 from ₹29,199 crore (74.21%) in FY24. Indirect contributions, such as withholding and payroll taxes, rose to ₹12,189 crore (31.34%) from ₹9,284 crore (23.60%). Other contributions, covering social security and pension funds, increased slightly to ₹937 crore.

Segment-wise, Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) contributed ₹15,379 crore in direct taxes for FY25, down from ₹19,345 crore in FY24. Tata Commercial and Passenger Vehicles reported ₹9,541 crore in direct contributions, while other businesses added ₹846 crore. The decline in JLR's contributions reflects shifting operational dynamics and market conditions. Tata Motors emphasised adherence to the Tata Code of Conduct, rejecting artificial tax structures and offshore havens. The Tax Transparency Report highlights compliance with OECD's BEPS 1.0 and 2.0 frameworks, aimed at curbing profit-shifting, and adoption of advanced pricing agreements (APAs) to ensure arm's-length transactions. Automation via ERP systems and centralised tax governance were cited as key risk-mitigation strategies.

The company says it is committed towards complying with the tax laws and regulations of the countries where we operate with zero tolerance towards non-compliance ensuring that all the tax decisions are taken based on local applicable tax laws and are validated by experts, where necessary.

India is yet to overtake Japan in GDP size

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

DESPITE the excitement on social media and recent claims by a top government official, India has not yet overtaken Japan to become the world's fourth-largest economy.

According to the latest International Monetary Fund (IMF) projections, India's GDP is expected to reach $3.9 trillion by the end of the 2024-25 fiscal year—short of Japan's projected $4.026 trillion GDP for the 2024 calendar year.

The confusion began after NITI Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam, in a recent press briefing, declared, "We are the fourth largest economy in the world as I speak. This is not my data, this is IMF data. India is larger than Japan." The remark quickly went viral, prompting celebrations across social media platforms.

However, the data doesn't quite support the claim—at least not yet. According to the IMF, India is projected to edge past Japan in GDP size only by the end of FY26. At that point, India's GDP is expected to touch $4.187 trillion, slightly ahead of Japan's $4.186 trillion. Notably, the IMF presents India's fiscal year (April–March) as the corresponding calendar year, which appears to have contributed to the misunderstanding.

Adding to the ambiguity is the difference in how we IMF and India shows fiscal year. IMF shows the fiscal year FY2024-25 as FY24 while in India FY 2024-25 is written as FY25. This misalignment likely led to a misinterpretation of IMF's 2025 projections as current data.

TNIE reached out to Niti Aayog for a clarity on the claim, but could not elicit a response from them till the time of filing the report. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), in its first advance estimate, pegged India's nominal GDP for FY25 at ₹324 lakh crore. At an assumed average exchange rate of ₹84 per dollar, that would place India's GDP at around $3.85 trillion—still trailing Japan.

A clearer picture will emerge when MoSPI releases the fourth-quarter GDP data on May 30, 2025. Even when India officially overtakes Japan, experts urge caution in reading too much into the milestone.

HEAD-TO-HEAD

	2024		2025	
COUNTRY	GDP ($ TRN)	PER CAPITA GDP ($)	GDP ($ TRN)	PER CAPITA GDP ($)
US	29.2	85,812	30.50	89,105
China	18.75	13,300	19,231	13,687
Germany	4.66	54,989	4.74	55,911
Japan	4.06	32,500	4.186	33,995
India*	3.9	2,711	4.187	2,878
UK	3.64	52,648	3.83	54,949

*For India, 2024 denotes financial year 2024-25 and 2025 denotes financial year 2025-26

Source: IMF

Norris wins 'dream' maiden Monaco GP

Lando Norris won his maiden Monaco Grand Prix on Sunday to close the gap on his McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri in the battle for the 2025 drivers' world title. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc took second with Piastri completing the podium in the eighth race of the season. Four-time reigning world champion Max Verstappen took fourth with Lewis Hamilton in the other Ferrari rounding out the top five.

The great No 4 conundrum for India

Veteran batter Pujara feels newly-appointed Test captain Gill can continue at No 3 with experienced Karun coming in at No 4

GOMESH S @ Chennai

EVEN as chief selector Ajit Agarkar announced the 18-member squad for the five-Test series in England and answered several questions on Saturday, there were a few that he had left to the newly named captain Shubman Gill and head coach Gautam Gambhir to decide. And it was understandable. There was no reason why Agarkar or India had to spell out their batting order three weeks before the first Test in Leeds.

One of the questions was about who will bat at No 4. In many ways, it has been a legacy position of sorts for Indian cricket. And with good reason. From the time Sachin Tendulkar walked out at No 4 against Australia during his maiden tour Down Under in 1992, the position has predominantly been held by two people. First it was Tendulkar and then, former India captain Virat Kohli. Unless there were tactical calls or injuries or exigent circumstances, by and large, the aforementioned duo had made the position their own, carrying forward the legacy.

> I would still like to see if Shubman can carry on batting at No 3 and someone like Karun, who has batted really well in domestic cricket, gets a chance to bat at No 4, which will be a bit more suitable for him.
>
> Cheteshwar Pujara

Which is why, at this point, the majority opening, seems to be the case of Gill dropping himself down to No 4 with B Sai Sudharsan or Abhimanyu Easwaran coming in at No 3. And it makes sense considering Gill batted a fair bit in the middle-order before becoming a Test opener for India. It would allow him to come at a time when the sideways movement has reduced and also lead from the front with the bat by holding the batting line-up together.

While the discussions and debates will continue at least until the intra-squad game which might give an indication, the bottomline will be about just one thing. Where does Gill wants to bat? He is perhaps one of the few youngsters who very early in his career asked for a specific spot and got it. Historically, most non-opening batters would start at No 6 and slowly move their way up. This applied for the likes of Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Ajinkya Rahane and Gill's predecessor at No 3, Cheteshwar Pujara.

Shubman Gill (R) with coach Gautam Gambhir (L) and chief selector Ajit Agarkar

The veteran batter, who occupied the No 3 slot since Rahul Dravid retired in 2012 till the 2023 World Test Championship final, feels if Gill drops down to No 4, Easwaran or comeback man Karun Nair could be at No 3. "At this stage, we don't know whether Shubman is going to carry on batting at No 3, or is he going to drop down to No 4. If Shubman bats at No 4, then there's a vacancy at No 3, then someone like Abhimanyu or Karun Nair could be a good fit at that position," Pujara said in an interaction organised by Sony Sports network, the official broadcaster of India tour of England.

In saying that, the 37-year-old felt Gill could carry on at No 3 while Karun might take up the No 4 spot. "I would still like to see if Shubman can carry on batting at No 3 and someone like Karun, who has batted really well in domestic cricket, gets an opportunity to bat at No 4, which will be a bit more suitable for him. Karun is someone who hasn't batted at number three in domestic cricket. I'm not saying he can't do it for the Test team, but the ideal position for Karun would be No 4," said Pujara. "It's a young team. It will be difficult to name a player at No 3 or 4 from now on. Because we don't even know the batting order yet. We'll have to wait for a series or two to figure out who the batters are at No 3/4," he added.

That is a word of caution Agarkar reiterated as well. That this is a young team with a young captain who will have their shares of ups and downs before the core group for the coming decade is formed. The first step towards it would begin in Leeds on June 20.

INDIAN FLAVOUR IN NORWAY

With the prestigious Norway Chess scheduled to begin on Monday, a look at the tournament...

EYES ON GUKESH

Since the Indian became world champion in Classical in Singapore, he has not featured in too many events (Wijk Aan Zee, Paris and Bucharest). This gives him a chance to play elite level chess against the best opposition possible. Do well and it set him up for the second part of the year.

1 *Gukesh's two meetings against Carlsen will be their first in Classical since the Indian became world champion.*

LOT TO LOOK FORWARD TO FROM AN INDIAN PERSPECTIVE

With four Indians on show, there's bound to be a lot of Indian interest. Arjun Erigaisi, who did not receive invitations for tournaments like these in the past, will know this offers a big opportunity. Likewise, K Humpy and R Vaishali in the women's section.

RAPID CHAMP VS CLASSICAL CHAMP IN WOMEN

Humpy has spoken a fair few times about how she wants to become the women's world champion. Having advanced to the Women's Candidates last year, she knows she can pick up a fair few Circuit points if she does well here. The world rapid champ can also pick up some clues as to where her game is when she faces Ju Wenjun, the reigning women's champ in Classical.

FORMAT

Six-player double round robin so each player plays 10 games.

All games are Classical.

If Classical games end in a draw, then they are decided by an Armageddon so all matches will have a decisive result.

Both Open and women's competitions will have same prize money.

THE FIELD

Norway Chess men	Norway Chess women
M Carlsen World No. 1 (FIDE 2837)	J Wenjun Women's No. 2 (2580)
H Nakamura 2 (2804)	L Tingjie 3 (2552)
D Gukesh 3 (2787)	K Humpy 5 (2543)
A Erigaisi 4 (2782)	A Muzychuk 8 (2526)
F Caruana 5 (2776)	R Vaishali 16 (2475)
W Yi 8 (2758)	S Khademalsharieh (2449)

Prize money

1 NOK 700 000	3 NOK 200 000	5 NOK 150 000
2 NOK 350 000	4 NOK 170 000	6 NOK 120 000

Super Kings dent Titans' top-2 hopes

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Dewald Brevis and Devon Conway hit fifties as Chennai Super Kings signed off with a 83-run win against Gujarat Titans in Ahmedabad on Sunday.

Brevis (53 off 27) smashed the Gujarat bowlers for fun after Conway (52) set the tone. Ayush Mhatre (34 off 17) and Urvil Patel (37 off 19) also made important contributions as CSK posted 230/5.

In response, GT fell flat with only B Sai Sudharsan (41 off 28) putting up a fight. Anshul Kamboj (3/13) and left-arm spinner Noor Ahmad (3/21) dented their hopes of finishing in the top two. If Punjab Kings and Royal Challengers Benglauru win their respective last games, GT will finish third. **Brief scores:** CSK 230/5 in 20 ovs (Brevis 57, Conway 52; Prasidh 2/22) **bt** GT 147 all out in 18.3 ovs (Sai Sudharsan 41; Kamboj 3/13, Noor 3/21).

Klaasen century helps SRH finish on a high

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IN a way, it was a summation of what the season could have been. Having begun the season with a total of 286/6 in their opening game against Rajasthan Royals, the 2024 runners-up signed off with a mammoth total of 278/3 versus Kolkata Knight Riders in New Delhi on Sunday. With this total, SRH now hold all top four team totals in the history of the tournament.

As it is the case when they show up, SRH rained fours and sixes, making a mockery of the KKR bowling line-up at the Arun Jaitley Stadium. When they started the innings with just two runs in the first over, no one at the venue would have thought SRH would end up where they did. And it predominantly happened because of Heinrich Klaasen. The South African who has had a below par season finally turned up. His power-hitting was on full display as Klaasen out-hit Travis Head (76 off 40) and Abhishek Sharma (32 from 16). Once Sharma got out, Klaasen took centre-stage with Head playing second fiddle. Watching him bat felt like a highlights package where Klaasen was taking throwdowns for fun in the nets. Not a single bowler was spared as he stood tall in the crease and used his batswing to clear them over the ropes.

Sunrisers Hyderabad batter Heinrich Klaasen celebrates his century against Kolkata Knight Riders in New Delhi on Sunday. He smashed 105 n.o from 39 balls | AFP

If not for Ishan Kishan's slow start, he went on to make 29 from 20. There was a real chance of SRH breaching the 300-run mark on Sunday. Despite that, Klaasen, in just 39 balls, smashed an unbeaten 105 at a ridiculous strike rate of 269.23. That the celebration from him was muted summed up how late it came in the season. He said as much during the mid-innings chat with the broadcaster. "... it has been a long season of disappointment. Luckily, I stuck to it and finally got some reward. Pride is what gave me focus, we owe it to the fans to dish out good performances. Not trying to hit every ball for six tonight, that's what I did wrong this season, he said.

KKR started the chase with little to no hopes of making it and went hard at every ball. They kept losing wickets regularly and eventually fell short by 110 runs. **Brief scores:** SRH 278/3 in 20 ovs (Heinrich Klaasen 105, Travis Head 76; Sunil Narine 2/42) **bt** KKR 168 in 18.4 ovs (Manish 37, Malinga 3/31, Unadkat 3/24).

Playing Magnus in a classical game will be a fun test: Gukesh

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Stavanger

A FEW weeks ago, Stavanger, a quaint, unhurried seaside town in Norway's southwest, was bathed in sunshine. The locals had found it strange because the weather in Stavanger is usually 'rain, rain, rain'. Spring, then, had come early.

Or so it seemed. But not anymore.

On Sunday morning the pitter-patter of the rains was a constant soundtrack. Low-lying clouds and moisture laden winds had brought down the mercury by a couple of degrees. The weather was in stark contrast to Norway Chess' official hotel. At one point of time, both Viswanathan Anand and Magnus Carlsen, 10 world Classical titles between them, were in the lobby — the former checking-in and the latter carrying what looked like pizza. The presence of Carlsen, whose Classical days are well and truly numbered, ought to be cherished for you never know when he will decide to walk away from the format he has owned since becoming world champion for the first time in 2013.

RD 1: GUKESH OPENS AGAINST CARLSEN

OPEN: Carlsen vs Gukesh; Wei Yi vs Arjun; Nakamura vs Caruana.

Women: Muzychuk vs Khadem; Humpy vs Vaishali; Lei vs Ju.

While Carlsen is royalty in these parts, this year's field in the Open section is so strong it could well be a mini Candidates. Carlsen, the World No 1, is joined by D Gukesh, the reigning world champion and World No 3, Hikaru Nakamura, World No 2, Arjun Erigaisi, World No 4 and Fabiano Caruana, World No 5. Completing the set is Wei Yi, World No 8, a former second of Ding Liren. It's why there's bound to be a lot of excitement, even from an Indian perspective. Since Gukesh's ascension last December, his results have been mixed. If he can best this field, he will answer his critics in some style. "I feel great being here (in Stavanger)," the Indian teen said in an interview with the organisers. "I've had good memories from Norway. I am sure playing Magnus here in a classical game will be a fun challenge. Also, for the spectators, it is about the world champion versus the No 1 player in the world. I hope it will be a treat."

After the Indian beat Liren to the title last year, the expectations have grown. And he's confident he can meet those. "It is a new level. But when I see it as a challenge to prove to myself that I can handle this... even though the expectations are high, I can meet them if I keep working hard and doing my best."

Woman quarter-miler in dope net ahead of Asian C'ships?

ENS @ Chennai

A WOMAN quarter-miler was apparently dropped from the Indian squad scheduled to compete at the Asian Athletics Championships for testing positive for doping. The 400-m runner, who was part of the national camp at the National Centre of Excellence in Thiruvananthapuram, was in the 4x400m relay team.

The Athletics Federation of India said there's no official communication but they too have heard about it. The team that had encountered visa issues for some of the members have already reached Gumi, South Korea and the quarter-miler was not part of the team. Not just her, there are a few other athletes who missed out because of injury.

Just a few weeks ago, javelin thrower Shivpal Singh tested positive for a banned substance and is facing a eight-year ban for second positive test. He was training at Patiala NCOE. The recent case, if confirmed, could be another embarrassing moment for AFI, who has been dogged by doping controversies of late. Their decentralisation of national camp, whereby athletes were given freedom to train at any venue across the country, has also come under the scanner due to rise in such cases.

Rafa gets farewell, easy for Sabalenka

AGENCIES @ Paris

ROLAND Garros paid tribute to its greatest champion with a ceremony for the retired Rafael Nadal on Sunday, while Aryna Sabalenka got her French Open campaign up and running with an emphatic victory. Nadal, the record 14-time champion on the Paris clay, retired from tennis last November after an illustrious career.

He returned to Court Philippe Chatrier a year after suffering a first-round exit at the hands of Alexander Zverev in what proved to be his final French Open. The Spaniard finished with a remarkable 112-4 win-loss record at Roland Garros, dominating the tournament since winning the title on his debut in 2005.

Rafael Nadal acknowledges the fans during the ceremony on Sunday | AFP

Nadal hung up his racquet following the 2024 Davis Cup Finals in Malaga, initially denying him an opportunity to wave goodbye to his adoring fans in Paris. His tally of 14 victories at a single Grand Slam appears unlikely to be beaten, with Margaret Court's 11 Australian Open titles second on the all-time list.

Meanwhile, Women's World No 1 Sabalenka needed just an hour to sweep aside Russian Kamilla Rakhimova on the opening day of the tournament. The Belarusian kicked off the schedule under the roof on Court Philippe Chatrier with a ruthless 6-1, 6-0 win, making a strong start to her tilt at a first French Open title.

Select results (Rd 1): Men: L Musetti (ITA x8) bt Y Hanfmann (GER) 7-5, 6-2, 6-0; M Navone (ARG) bt B Nakashima (USA x28) 7-6 (2), 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; T Paul (USA x12) bt E Moller (DEN) 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-3, 6-1. **Women:** A Sabalenka (BLR x1) bt K Rakhimova (RUS) 6-1, 6-0; D Shnaider (RUS x11) bt A Soboleva (UKR) 7-6 (3), 6-2; E Lys (GER) bt P Stearns (USA x28) 6-0, 6-3; Z Qinwen (CHN x8) bt A Pavlyuchenkova (RUS) 6-4, 6-3; E Svitolina (UKR x13) bt Z Sonmez (TUR) 6-1, 6-1.

Srikanth loses final battle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

KIDAMBI Srikanth had turned back the clock to reach the Malaysia Masters (a Super 500 event on BWF World Tour) final and he was looking to apply the icing on the cake and win the event.

However, Li Shi Feng, the World No 4 and his opponent in the final, proved to be too strong as the Indian lost 21-11, 21-9 on Sunday.

Given his struggles in recent years, this run in Malaysia is a massive boost for the 32-year-old. Srikanth started from the qualifying stage and played a total of seven matches in six days and that could have taken a toll on his body.

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

City, Chelsea secure CL; Liverpool lift trophy

AGENCIES @ Manchester

MANCHESTER City, Chelsea and Newcastle secured places in next season's Champions League as Liverpool lifted the Premier League trophy after a 1-1 draw against Crystal Palace on a dramatic final day of the season on Sunday.

A record-equalling 20th league title for Liverpool and relegation for Ipswich, Leicester and Southampton had long since been decided, leaving the focus of attention on the battle for European places.

Liverpool and Arsenal had already secured their place in the Champions League by finishing in the top two. City ensured a disappointing season did not end in disastrous fashion by qualifying for Europe's top competition for the 15th consecutive season by beating Fulham 2-0 to finish third.

Chelsea ended Nottingham Forest's dreams of a first appearance in the Champions League. **Sunday's results:** Bournemouth **2-0** Leicester; Fulham **0-2** Man City; Ipswich **1-3** West Ham; Liverpool **1-1** Palace; Man United **2-0** Aston Villa; Newcastle **0-1** Everton; Forest **0-1** Chelsea; Southampton **1-2** Arsenal; Spurs **1-4** Brighton; Wolves **1-1** Brentford.

Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold lifts the trophy on Sunday | AP

2024-25 PL STANDINGS (TOP 5)

Matches	M	W	L	GD	PTS
Liverpool	38	25	4	45	84
Arsenal	38	20	4	35	74
Man City	38	21	9	28	71
Chelsea	38	20	9	21	69
Newcastle	38	20	12	21	66

The top-five will feature in the Champions League next season. Europa winners Tottenham will be the sixth PL club who'll be part of the CL.

EXPRESS READ

Boxer Bartwal storms into quarterfinals

BANGKOK: Indian boxer Pawan Bartwal stormed into the quarterfinals of the men's 55kg category at the 4th Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament with a 5-0 win over Cambodia's Sao Rangsey on Sunday. Bartwal, a national championship silver medallist, dominated the bout with superior ring craft and tactical maturity, securing his second consecutive win in the event.

ISSF Jr WC: India bag double podium finish

SUHL: India bagged a silver and bronze in the 10m air rifle mixed team event at the ISSF Junior World Cup. It was India's second double podium finish in two days. Naraen Pranav and Khyaty Chaudhary won silver while Himanshu and Shambhavi Kshirsagar bagged bronze, as India's tally reached double figures (2 gold, 4 silver, 4 bronze) with two more finals coming up on Monday.

Former AFI chief Sumariwalla honoured

GUMI: Adille J Sumariwalla, vice president of World Athletics and former president of the Athletics Federation of India, was conferred with the Asian Athletics Leadership Gold Pin at the Asian Athletics Association (AAA) Congress on Sunday. The award was presented by AAA president General Dahlan Al Hamad at the Congress, held ahead of the Asian Athletics Championships, which begins in here on May 27.

INDIA VS ABROAD: THE ENGINEERING PUZZLE

SAUMYA SOLANKI FINDS OUT WHAT SHAPES INDIAN ENGINEERS' DREAMS

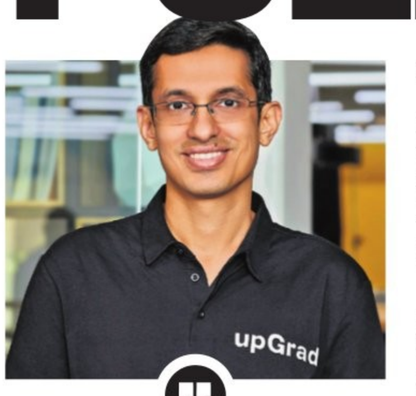
IN today's dynamic global economy, Indian students face an increasingly high-stakes question: Where should they pursue their engineering education? The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have long held an iconic reputation of being the pinnacle of technical training in India, but international universities, especially in the United States (US), Europe, Canada, and Australia, now lure students with promises of specialised programmes, global exposure, and migration pathways. Beneath the surface, however, these choices are far more complex than they appear.

Through conversations with industry leaders like Mayank Kumar, Co-founder of education and skilling company upGrad, and students, both in India and abroad, we try to unpack the layered dynamics behind the engineering choices of today's Indian students.

A shifting landscape

According to Mayank Kumar, the bulk of Indian students heading abroad for engineering studies do so at the postgraduate level, with "more than 60–70%" going for master's or higher degrees. This reflects structural confidence in IITs and other Indian institutions for undergraduate training and serves as an acknowledgement that specialisation, research, and forming global networks is easier abroad.

Yet, change is brewing. As Kumar observes, undergraduate international enrollment is rising, driven by two converging factors: the expansion of India's middle class and the gradual decline in international tuition barriers due to scholarships, loans, and currency shifts.



The limited expansion of high-quality seats in India collides with declining enrollments in some foreign universities, reshaping the global supply-demand balance

Mayank Kumar, Co-founder, upGrad

Comparing educational quality

A comparison of educational quality between IITs and international universities reveals surprising strengths in the Indian system and significant pedagogical differences abroad.

"At IITs, you get hands-on experience. You can immerse yourself in lab work, which is quite inaccessible in foreign universities due to the private nature of research," argues Ashu from IIT Madras, highlighting an overlooked advantage of the Indian system.

Keshav from IIT Guwahati emphasises the value proposition that IITs provide: "decent job and research opportunities in India with nearly the same education quality as foreign universities but at a lesser cost."

Yet Rethyam Gupta, who holds a Bachelor's degree from IIT Guwahati and is now pursuing a Master's in Financial Engineering from Cornell University, identifies fundamental differences in educational philosophy as he says: "During my undergraduation in India, there was a heavy emphasis on memorisation. In contrast, US varsities encourage deeper understanding and practical application." He further notes that the rigid, rank-determined specialisation system in India forces students into disciplines they may not genuinely enjoy — a limitation he experienced personally.

Mayank Kumar's assessment provides an important context, "Some foreign universities are better than IITs. But the majority of the foreign universities may not give as good an outcome as an IIT."

This suggests a more stratified international landscape where top-tier institutions outperform IITs, but average ones may underdeliver.

The point to note is that, despite the international buzz, the IIT brand retains powerful global currency.

Core challenges inside India

Yet, the Indian system faces serious internal challenges. Keshav critiques the system's excessive emphasis on exams and the lack of focus on non-academic skill development.

Ashu from IIT Madras highlights underlying concerns about unequal access, noting that "opportunities and exposure often tilt in favour of students from more privileged backgrounds, whether by region, religion, caste, or income."

Ashu also expresses concern about occasional lapses in scientific rigour, observing, "even a few IIT professors have, at times, entertained questionable scientific claims".

These internal challenges are not just academic; they intersect with social justice, innovation pipelines, and the country's capacity to compete globally.

The settlement dynamics

Interestingly, international education trends are not uniformly distributed across India. Kumar highlights that most students going abroad have a rich family background or, in terms of regions, hail from certain states like Punjab, Gujarat, and Telangana, reflecting historical migration networks, regional wealth patterns, and community-specific aspirations.

Crucially, Kumar challenges the notion that specialisation is the main driver. "The students going abroad for specialised education are a small minority," he says. Instead, the primary motivation for many is settlement. This creates a specific incentive alignment: students gravitate toward programmes with strong post-study work visas, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields, viewing education as a migration pathway rather than solely an intellectual or professional investment.

The ROI paradox

This raises a striking paradox. While the financial return on investment (ROI) of international education often appears poor on paper, given the high tuition, living costs, and loans, many families prioritise perceived global opportunity and the prospect of permanent migration over short-term salary calculations.

Mayank Kumar is blunt when he says, "If you do the ROI analysis, you will realise that for most of them, it does not make sense." Yet, this mismatch persists, driven by non-financial motivations such as social status, migration goals, and long-term lifestyle aspirations. While affordability remains relative, he warns of a subtle trap: "It's difficult to come back once you're there." Financial inertia, visa dependencies, and lifestyle expectations can create a point of no return.

Strategic, not aspirational

As India's domestic economy and higher education landscape evolve, Mayank Kumar urges students to be sharper in their choices, "Do not just go blindly for anything and everything, research the programme, work out the ROI," he says. He cautions against wasting money on mid-tier international institutions with limited job-market advantages.

ALIGNING PASSIONS

The Indian engineering education debate is no longer a binary one, limited to staying home or going abroad; it's a multifaceted calculation involving cost, career alignment, migration ambitions, and personal passion. While IITs offer world-class technical foundations at low cost, elite foreign universities provide access to specialised research, global networks, and migration pathways. Neither guarantees success without focused effort, and clear-eyed decision-making. As Mayank Kumar says, India's own opportunities are expanding, so the calculations will shift. Students who approach these decisions with strategic clarity rather than following norms will be positioned to navigate this complex landscape — regardless of which side of the global engineering divide they pick

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT
Hon'ble Justice
Dr. H.N. NAGAMOHAN DAS
One-Man Commission
Yavanika, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru.

COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF SCHEDULED CASTES – 2025

All citizens of Karnataka belonging to Schedule caste households are requested to participate through any of the following modes.

The door-to-door survey by enumerators	Extended from 26.05.2025 up to 29.05.2025
Special camp (at election polling stations)	For 3 days from 30.05.2025 up to 01.06.2025
Self-declaration through online mode	Will continue up to 01.06.2025

- Those who wish to submit the self-declaration online may use the following link: **https://schedulecastesurvey.karnataka.gov.in/selfdeclaration**
- To complete the self-declaration form online, either **A.** Aadhar card along with R.D number of the caste certificate or **B.** Ration Card is required.
- Those who are unable to participate during Door-to-Door survey may visit the nearest election polling station on the designated special camp day, carrying either **A.** Ration Card or **B.** Aadhar card to submit the necessary information.
- Citizens of Karnataka belonging to Schedule Caste households can participate in this survey even without caste certificate during door to door survey and special camps.

HELPLINE 9481359000

The dates for Door-to-Door survey, Special Camps and Online Self-Declaration have been extended.

As your social responsibility all Schedule Caste households of Karnataka are requested to participate in this comprehensive survey.

If your caste is
Adi Karnataka
Adi Dravida
Adi Andhra
Please mention the original caste name accurately.

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Department speaks during a programme.

Our Karnataka Guarantee Karnataka
Shakthi FREE BUS Service for women across Karnataka
Anna Bhagya 10kg Free Food Grains (per person / per month)
Gruha Jyothi Up to 200 Units of Free Electricity to each home
Gruha Lakshmi ₹2000 per month to female head of the family
Yuva Nidhi ₹3000 Per month for Graduates ₹1500 Per month for Diploma Holders

As enshrined in our Constitution - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

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26.05.2025
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

New assembly line

On this day in 1927, Henry Ford and his son Edsel drove the 15 millionth Model T Ford, marking the automobile's official last day of production

MAKE OF THE MODEL

The Model T had a four-cylinder engine with a detachable cylinder head and a one-piece cylinder block. It used lightweight, high-strength vanadium alloy steel

A REVOLUTION

The steering wheel was placed on the left side, allowing passengers easy access to and from the cars. It also became famous for the stunts it could perform

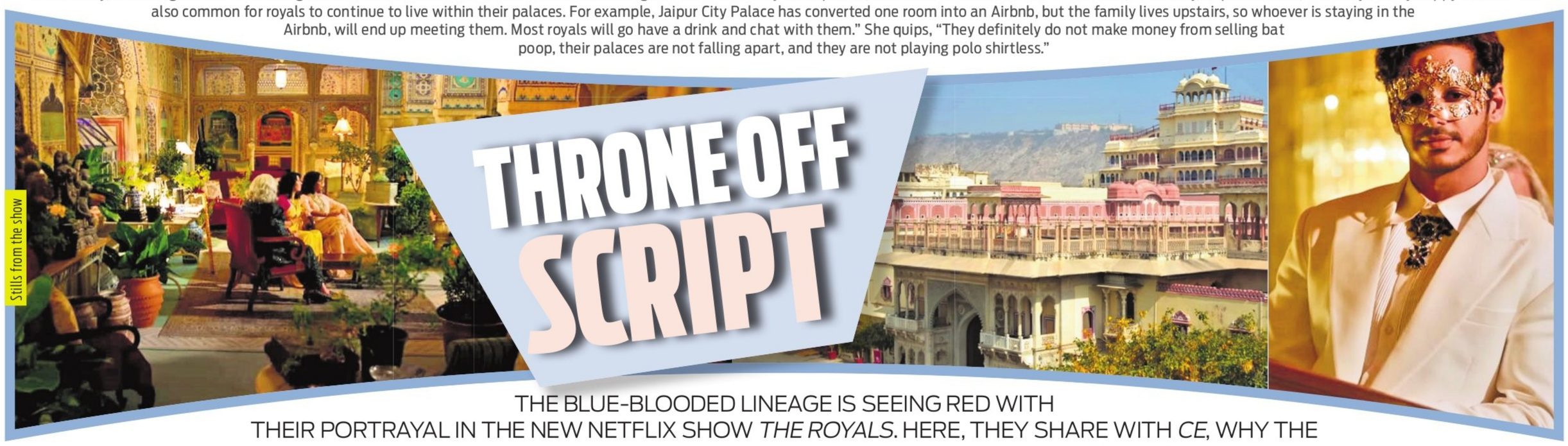
SALES

Model T was designed to handle the usually awful roads and cheap to manufacture. In the year of its launch in 1908, 10,607 Model Ts were sold

Sip-Sip Hooray!

PG 3

Despite its star power with actors Ishan Khatter and Bhumi Pedneker, the recently-released Netflix series *The Royals* has received a lot of attention for all the wrong reasons, with viewers being left wanting for more from the leads' chemistry to a confused plotline and unsatisfying ending. Criticism has also come from unexpected quarters: the royals of India, with members of royal families across the country sharing their two cents on what the show got right and wrong in its representation of the lives of today's royals. Anshu Khanna, founder, Royal Fables, a heritage platform showcasing the culture of princely India, expressed that some things in the show, particularly the sale of paintings and the fictional family's reluctance to convert palaces into a hotel, felt more fitting to royals' of the past. She says, "When the privy purse was suddenly taken away, the royals were in a desperate state and most sales happened at that time. Today, the kids go to the best colleges in the world but come back to the remotest village where their family has a palace, to restore it and convert it into a hotel, homestay, or polo retreat, and they're very happy to do it. It's also common for royals to continue to live within their palaces. For example, Jaipur City Palace has converted one room into an Airbnb, but the family lives upstairs, so whoever is staying in the Airbnb, will end up meeting them. Most royals will go have a drink and chat with them." She quips, "They definitely do not make money from selling bat poop, their palaces are not falling apart, and they are not playing polo shirtless."



Stills from the show

THRONE OFF SCRIPT

THE BLUE-BLOODED LINEAGE IS SEEING RED WITH THEIR PORTRAYAL IN THE NEW NETFLIX SHOW *THE ROYALS*. HERE, THEY SHARE WITH *CE*, WHY THE SHOW WENT WRONG IN MANY WAYS WHILE REPRESENTING THEIR LIVES **| MAHIMA NAGARAJU**

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

Kamakshi Devi Wadiyar, from the Mysuru royal family, firmly states that royal families are not living a debauched life. "My brother started a number of hotels and the Bangalore Palace used to be with him which turned out a considerable income but it's not that everybody is sitting around and royal families are living a debauched life. My family has lived a simple, humble and frugal life. Now, everyone is educated and wants to work - my grandchildren have taken up jobs in finance, law, interiors, and more. We live regular lives," she says.

PRINCESSES AND QUEENS

In a brief moment in the show, when the royal women – the maharani, rajmata and princess are asked what they do for work, they reply that they don't. The royal women of today say that the reality is vastly different. "Times have changed but even in earlier days, the Maratha ladies were treated on par with men and given due respect; they were known to not shy away from battles too, and they continue to be in the forefront be it administration, schools, social works," says **Ambika Raje Ghorpade** of the erstwhile royal family of Sandur.

BLUE-BLOODED WEDDINGS

A key moment of tension in the show is the queen's insistence on her son marrying the princess of a neighbouring kingdom. While most royals admit that they prefer marrying other royals, **Vidya Gajapathi Raju** of the Vijayanagaram royals of Andhra Pradesh, notes that times are changing. "Of course, as with most communities, if a match is being arranged, it usually is within the same community. But with travel, these perceptions are changing," she says. Kamakshi Devi adds that while horoscopes are important, at the end of the day, there's no point looking into the horoscope in these times. "The happiness of your children and grandchildren matters the most," she says.

SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PEOPLE, NOT DECADENT RULERS

While nobody can deny that royal families have inheritances beyond measure, royals today deny living entirely off of them as the show implies, pointing to businesses set up by several families before and after the abolition of the privy purses. **Tikaraj Ambikeshwar Dev Chand Katoch** of the royal family of Kangra, says, "My father entered the corporate world and was one of the first independent directors of Indiabulls. So I can safely say that the Kangra family never even looks towards living off our inheritance and we have definitely built a lot over the inheritance. My father never let me off the hook easily. From Class 10, I started interning and later ventured into the corporate world on my own. When my family lost my grandfather, and my father had much more responsibility on his shoulders, he needed me to quit my career in the corporate world and help him with the numerous businesses he had started in Himachal Pradesh. It was a no-brainer; I have been managing all his businesses for the last year and a half now," says the 26-year-old, adding, "There are so many other young royals who are doing so much more than I am. So the show's portrayal of young royals being spoiled brats who are happily selling their inheritance to simply party or get married to gain access to money is completely inaccurate."

DO YOUR RESEARCH

While most of it is filmed in Jaipur's City Palace, showing off its intricately decorated doors and distinctive blue and white room. While the show does not claim to be based on the Jaipur royal family, some have wished the show was based more on the factual lives of royals. "I watched the show as many scenes are shot in the Jaipur city palace but it's got nothing to do with the family, they are totally different and have been working on so many things – museums, schools, and the ex-Maharaja was in the army, serving the country. The filmmakers haven't done their research and it is showing a negative light on Indian royalty. The UK has come out with such a detailed historical show like *The Crown*, which everybody in our country has also watched. There's a big fan following because they have done their research properly. It's not like they have not shown scandals, but they've also shown the great things that they have done, not making a joke out of their royalty," says **Vivasvat Pal**, crown prince of Karauli, adding that his busy lifestyle makes the leisure-filled lifestyle of the fictional royals just that – fictional. He says, "My family has started so many different projects, education, women's empowerment, educating the girl child, water projects, or employing 300 people in our trusts alone – there is no time for partying," he says.

DRESSING DOWN

While young royals are depicted in stylish, modern outfits, royal women point out that heavy silk sarees and embroidery are simply not the go-to look for older royal women, who have a subtler dressing sense and a preference for pastel colours. Kamakshi Devi, a Wadiyar princess and daughter of former ruler of Mysore, Jayachamarajendra Wadiyar, says, "My parents never wore heavy jewellery, it is a myth shown when depicting royalty. Unless it's a wedding, people don't get dolled up." Ghorpade adds, "In fact, we love wearing a simple chiffon saree with a few strands of pearls. That's how we have grown up and continue doing that."

LGBTQ+ ROYALS

A key plot twist in the show comes when it's revealed that the deceased Maharaja was gay and left his fortune to his partner. The princess, played by actor Kavya Trehan, too, realises her attraction to women during the course of the series. Despite progress in the last several years, India is not one of the safest or most accepting places to be gay. The prince of Rajpipla, **Manvendra Singh Gohil**, is India's first openly gay royal, having come out in 2006 to much backlash. "There are a lot of royals across the world who are queer. But the main problem comes with reputation – there are some royal duties to be carried out, a legacy and recognition from their people which they are scared of losing and prevents them from coming out. The day I came out, people burnt my effigies on the street," he says. Despite not many other royals have come out publicly, Gohil believes that times are changing, saying, "Today, people approach me to solve their disputes because they know that I fought for my rights with truth and honesty. People have no issue with my sexuality. No royal has come out as publicly as I have, but there have been a few who have come out to their families and near and dear ones. The younger generation is much more exposed to information – my nephews and cousins are proud of me."

CITY READ

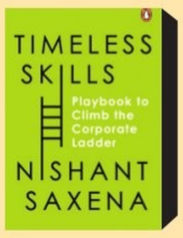
Mango-themed menu till May 31

Make the most of the last of the mango season as Nasi and Mee has put together a mango-themed food menu which is available till May 31, 12pm onwards, for all those who love the king of fruit. This menu offers a variety of items, including salads, sushi, curries, drinks, and desserts - all using mango as a core ingredient. Dishes include mango tango smoothie, mango sticky rice roll, ayam satay madura, and Malaysian yellow mango curry. The menu is priced at ₹270. For more information, visit nasiandmee.co.in

Design school hosts annual award show

JD School of Design hosted their annual awards, JD Design Awards 2025 at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, recently. The two-day event witnessed over 1,000 visitors, including luxury interior designers, educators, entrepreneurs and industry members to present and observe interior design projects focused on current social and environmental needs. Showcased works had themes such as elder care, urban wellness, and tech-enabled living. One of the notable projects was 'Livenza' by Dhruvi Jain which aimed to transform retail spaces using upcycled scrap and vernacular materials to create artisan-focused interiors. Projects used recycled materials, modular systems, and immersive formats. Supported by industry members, the event created a space for interaction between emerging designers and the design community through exhibitions, discussions, and networking.

BOOK NOOK



Timeless Skills

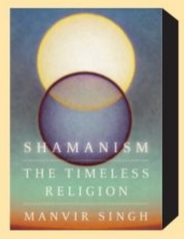
by Nishant Saxena

What holds most people back? Why only some succeed but most remain stuck in their careers? This book tries to answer many such questions. It is a collection of wisdom extracted from multiple sources, yet with a personal connection.

Untouchable Goa

by Dadu Mandrekar and translated by Nikhil Baisane

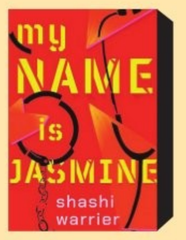
The book explores the lives and experiences of Dalits in Goa. It offers the scope to reflect, understand and embrace what has been beautiful and just in Goa's culture, encouraging us to expand our perception of the Union Territory.



Shamanism: The Timeless Religion

by Manvir Singh

What are the origins of shamanism, and what is its future? Do shamans believe in their powers? What can we learn from indigenous healing practices? Travelling from Indonesia to the Colombian Amazon, living with shamans and observing music, drug use, and curing ceremonies, the author journeys into one of the most mysterious religious traditions in this book.



My Name is Jasmine

by Shashi Warrier

The book is a riveting saga of betrayal and revenge, and the deep-rooted conflicts which continue to dismantle the very foundation of India.

DESIGN DAPPLE 2025

FASHIONABLY AHEAD

Models walk the ramp wearing dresses designed by students of the Army Institute of Fashion and Design at an event titled 'Design Dapple', held at Rajendra Sinhji Army Officers' Institute, MG Road | **SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA**

QUICKFIX

SAMBAL RICE

INGREDIENTS

- **Cooked rice:** 1 cup
- **Soy sauce:** 1 tbsp
- **Oil:** 1 tbsp
- **Salt to taste**
- **Vegetables as per choice**

FOR SAMBAL PASTE

- **Red chillies:** 12-15
- **Onion:** 1, medium-sized
- **Ginger-garlic paste:** 1 spoon
- **Oil:** 2 tbsp

METHOD

- Prepare sambal paste by soaking the chillies in hot water for ten minutes. Then, blend it with onion and ginger-garlic paste to a smooth consistency.
- In a pan, heat oil. Pour the prepared paste and cook for five minutes.
- To prepare the rice, heat oil in a pan and add soy sauce and 2 tbsp of sambal paste.
- Add boiled vegetables and mix well.
- Then add rice and cook for five minutes, stirring occasionally. Sambal rice is ready.

Note: You can store the sambal paste in the refrigerator for a month for future use.

Contributed by **Aarthi Vijay,** Chennai

ASK AN XPERT

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi.

My rabbit (3) has been sneezing for the past two days. What can be the reason behind this?

If your three-year-old rabbit has been sneezing for the past two days, it could be due to several reasons. Common causes include dust from hay, strong odours, or a change in bedding material. However, frequent sneezing can also be a sign of a respiratory infection, such as snuffles, which is caused by bacteria like Pasteurella. Other symptoms to watch for include nasal discharge, watery eyes, or reduced appetite. Ensure the rabbit's living area is clean and dust-free, and consult a vet promptly, as respiratory issues in rabbits can worsen quickly if left untreated.

FITBIT

UTKATASANA ARMS OUTSTRETCHED
(CHAIR POSE ARMS UTSTRECHED)

This unique practice is performed by stretching the arms in a way that brings awareness and focus to the upper body, while building strength in the lower body. This is an alternative for those with shoulder restrictions. It stretches, opens and strengthens the shoulders, chest, upper back, side torso, and arms.

STEPS

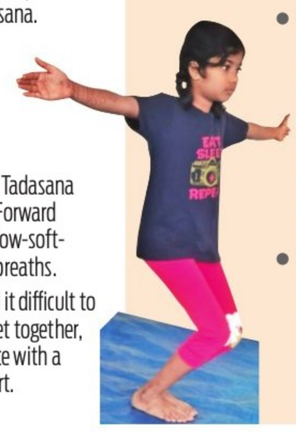
- Start in Tadasana (Mountain pose), pressing all four corners of the feet firmly, slightly engaging your core muscles. Roll the shoulders back and down, allowing your chest to open gently.
- Lengthen your spine, arms by your side, palms facing the body. Take a few deep breaths here.
- Take a big breath in. Exhale, lower your hips, and bend your knees as if sitting on an imaginary chair.
- Inhale, lift your arms from the sides at the shoulder level. Keep them parallel to the floor with palms facing upward or forward. Keep the elbows soft, avoiding hypertension. Feel a gentle external rotation of the shoulders, if the palms are facing upward.
- Keep your shoulders relaxed and allow shoulder blades to slide down the back, creating space between the ears and shoulders.
- Stay here with your knees bent for about six breaths or as per the body's capacity. Breathe deeply and feel the chest open.
- Look forward, find balance and focus. Engage your leg muscles to provide a stable foundation. Ensure your knees stay aligned over the toes without collapsing inward. Keep the breath steady and smooth, creating space and expansion with each inhale and grounding with each exhale.
- Slowly release the pose and return to Tadasana. Observe the effects of the pose on your energy and state of mind.
- Finally, relax in Tadasana Palms Facing Forward while taking slow-soft-smooth deep breaths.
- Tips: If you find it difficult to follow with feet together, you can practice with a hip-width apart.

BENEFITS

- Alleviates any discomfort from the arms, chest, neck, shoulders, and upper back.
- Stretches and lengthens the arms at shoulder level and spine.
- Integrates body awareness and improves your focus when holding the pose for a longer time.
- Helps kids and teens in keeping calm, steady, and more capable of accessing their brains.
- Helps relax the tensed muscles.
- Prepares the upper body, especially for the poses requiring arm strength.
- Improves breathing, impacting stability and balance.
- Stretches the diaphragm, thereby increasing lung capacity.
- Aids in correcting slouched or hunched back, collapsed chest, and rounded shoulders.
- Increases the blood supply at the digestive and reproductive systems.
- As the body is sthira (still), the mind becomes calm.
- Included in the yoga sequence for professionals, teens, homemakers, and sportspeople.
- Prepares mind and body for various twisting, forward and backward bending poses.
- Strengthens the torso, thighs and lower back.
- Tones and stabilises the knee and ankle joints.
- Gives a good massage to abdominal organs, stimulating the heart.
- Strengthens the immune system and relieves joint and back pains.

LIMITATIONS

- Students with arthritis in the knees, hips, and feet, especially senior citizens, suffering from sciatica, insomnia, headache or sprained ankles, avoid sitting on the floor. Those with a slipped disc, spinal issues, weak digestion, minor backache, or knee pain can take the support of a pillow but shouldn't stay in the pose for more than five mins.
- People with injuries to knees, hips, lower back, hamstrings, ankle, or who have undergone any abdominal, knees, or hips surgery should take the advice of the yoga experts.
- New to yoga or pregnant women should practice while seated on a folded blanket, block or pillow or wall support.



By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

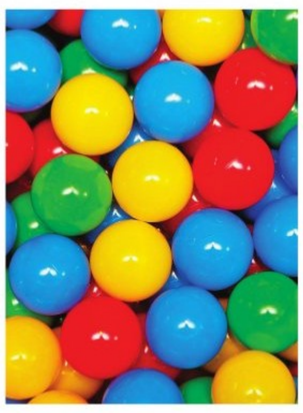
@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Bollywood Night

Enjoy an evening of Bollywood music, dancing and social gathering alongside food and drinks. Take yourself and your loved ones to indulge in continuous music and make the evening a celebration.

WHEN: May 26, 7pm
WHERE: Happy Brew, Koramangala
DETAILS: highape.com



Play Time

Enjoy a marine-themed event for children aged three to fourteen years. Activities include a treasure hunt, a submarine ride and an interactive walk in zone. The event promises to offer play areas, and interactive zones designed for exploration and engagement.

WHEN: May 26, 11am onwards
WHERE: Forum South Bangalore, Konanakunte
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Poetry Session

Enjoy an evening of poetry gathering with poet **Varsha Kalyan**i. The event promises to offer a safe space for poets to share their work and audience to connect with spoken words, alike.

WHEN: May 27, 7.30pm
WHERE: Urban Solace Cafe, Ulsoor
CALL: 98450 13055

Space to Pause

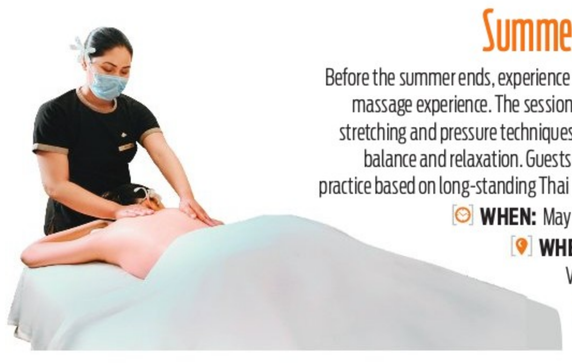
Enjoy a gathering for mindful reflection and activities. Highlights include focusing on mindfulness, daily challenges and personal growth through shared practice space for stories, tools and connection with others on a conscious path.

WHEN: May 28, 7pm
WHERE: Sabha, Shivaji Nagar
DETAILS: allevents.in

Swap and Solve

How about an evening for puzzles dedicated to solving, swapping, and exploring a variety of jigsaw and strategy puzzles? Participants can take part individually or with others. Whether you are a newbie or a seasonal puzzle lover, this event promises social interaction through activities in a shared space.

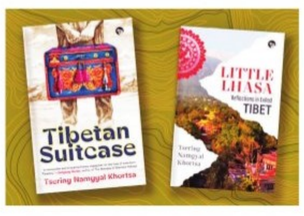
WHEN: May 26, 6.30pm
WHERE: Underline Center, Domlur
DETAILS: district.in



Summer Wellness

Before the summer ends, experience a traditional Thai massage experience. The session promises to offer stretching and pressure techniques used for physical balance and relaxation. Guests can take part in a practice based on long-standing Thai healing methods.

WHEN: May 26, 9am onwards
WHERE: JW Marriott, Vittal Mallya Road
CALL: 88841 11024

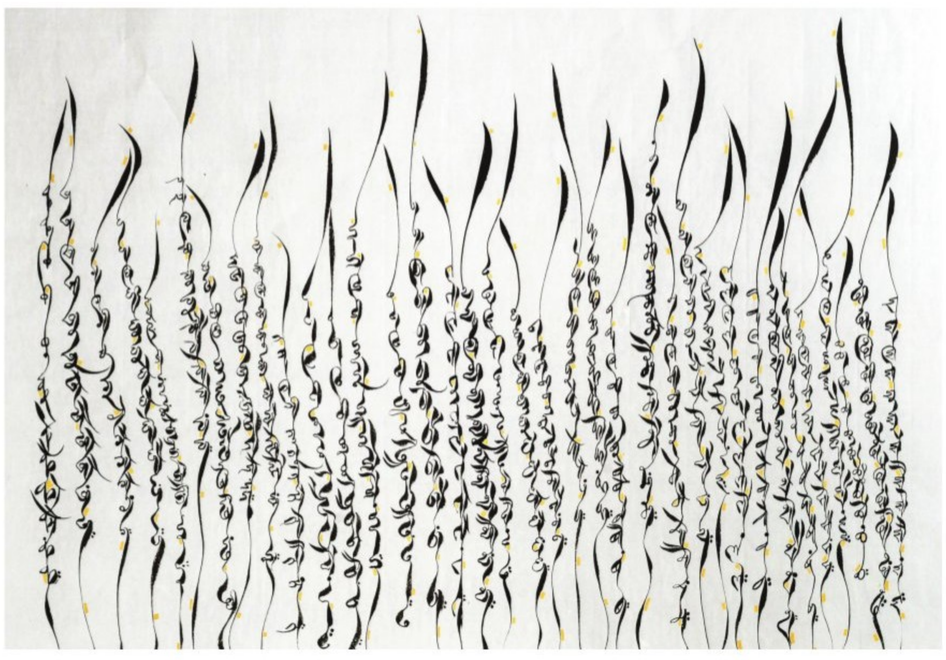


Beyond Words

Join in for a conversation with writer Tsering Namgyal Khortsa and educator Ngawang Gyatso on themes of exile, identity, memory, and belonging within the Tibetan diaspora. The event promises to focus on how literature serves as a space for cultural continuity, political engagement, and personal reflection beyond religious narratives.

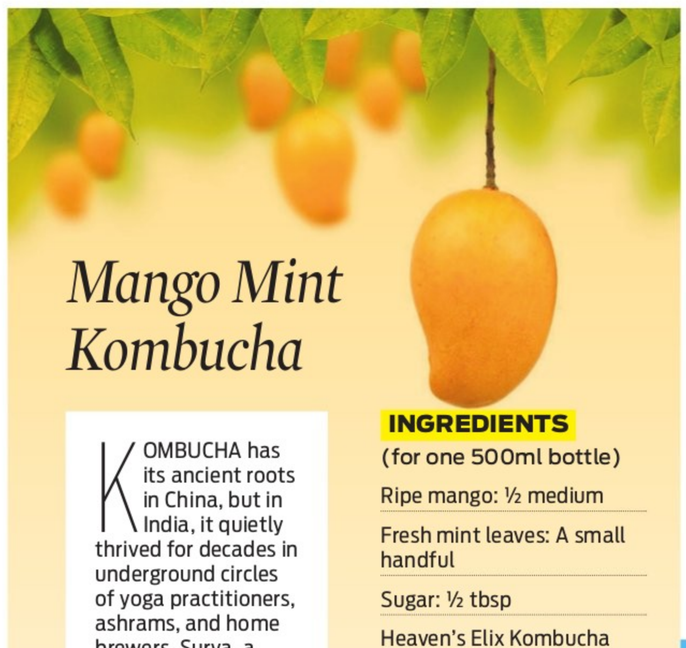
WHEN: May 27, 6.30pm onwards
WHERE: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur
DETAILS: Bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

ARTCORNER



GARDEN VARIETY

Nikheel Aphale's calligraphy artwork, 'Bageecha' translates the intangible into the tangible. His work also explores nuances of humanity and the environment



Mango Mint Kombucha

KOMBUCHA has its ancient roots in China, but in India, it quietly thrived for decades in underground circles of yoga practitioners, ashrams, and home brewers. Surya, a brewmaster from Heaven's Elix Kombucha, says, "Long before it hit café menus or store shelves, it was being brewed in glass jars tucked away in kitchen corners – from health-conscious homes in Kerala and Auroville to spiritual retreats that valued its probiotic benefits."

From his brewery, he shares a Mango Mint recipe that brings the tropics to your bottle – fresh, smooth, and unapologetically real.

INGREDIENTS
(for one 500ml bottle)

- Ripe mango: ½ medium
- Fresh mint leaves: A small handful
- Sugar: ½ tbsp
- Heaven's Elix Kombucha (unflavored): 425 ml
- Mango-mint purée: 75 ml

Method

For Mango-mint purée

Peel and chop the mango. Add these pieces and a handful of fresh mint leaves in a blender.

Blend into a fine paste. Then, strain the purée through a fine sieve or muslin cloth to extract 75 ml of smooth juice.

Add ½ tbsp sugar to a clean 500 ml flip-top glass bottle. (This gives your kombucha the fuel it needs to carbonate.)

Pour in 75 ml of mango-mint purée. Top up with 425 ml of Heaven's Elix Kombucha, leaving 1 inch of headspace at the top and seal the bottle tightly.

Second Fermentation

Store in a dark, warm place for 2-3 days. (This is where the fizz and flavour magic happens.)

Chill the bottle in the fridge on the last day.

BENEFITS

Supports gut health with natural probiotics from live cultures

1. Aids digestion: Mint helps soothe your system while kombucha balances it
2. Boosts hydration with a refreshing, low-sugar alternative to sodas
3. Natural energy lift from B vitamins and organic acids

Apple, mint and cucumber blend

CUCUMBERS are a very good source of vitamins A, C, and folic acid. The hard skin is rich in fiber and a variety of minerals including magnesium, silica, molybdenum, and potassium. Apples are a nutritious fruit packed with fibre, vitamin C, and antioxidants. They are a rich source of fibre, which aids digestion, and are made up of almost 85 per cent water and therefore are a good hydrating agent. Mint and honey offer a combination of potential health benefits, including aiding digestion, and boosting the immune system.

On a mission to revive Anglo-Indian cuisine and make it part of regular household dishes, Bridget White Kumar, an independent food consultant and trainer in colonial Anglo-Indian cuisine, shares some of the summer coolers that she grew up sipping.

INGREDIENTS

- Apples either red or green, with the skin (chopped): 2 cups
- Cucumber with the skin (chopped): 2 cups
- Fresh mint (chopped): 3 tbsp
- Black pepper powder: ½ tsp
- Honey: 2 tbsp
- A pinch of salt
- Juice of one lime

METHOD

- Blend all the above till smooth with a little water in a blender
- Remove to a jug and add 2 glasses of water. Mix well
- Leave in the fridge till required. Add more water for a thinner consistency.
- Pour into glasses and serve cold.
- Serve with or without ice.

Pomegranate and orange juice cooler

POMEGRANATES are superfruits. They contain many nutrients and are a good source of vitamins B6, C and K. Its juice may benefit people with inflammatory conditions and diabetes. They contain vitamin E which is an antioxidant, vitamin K, which is essential for blood clotting and vitamin B6, a water-soluble vitamin essential for numerous bodily functions. Oranges' juicy, segmented flesh – sweet and tangy – is a rich source of vitamin C that helps the body fight off infections and illnesses. They are low in calories, but rich in folates, fibre and antioxidants that help protect cells from damage and boost Immunity.

INGREDIENTS

- Pomegranate arils or jewels: 4 cups
- Oranges (large): 6
- Sugar (optional): 2 tbsp
- Water: 4 cups
- A few mint leaves

METHOD

- Halve the oranges. Squeeze out all the juice using a citrus press. Keep aside.
- Place the pomegranate arils in a juicer and blend till all they are crushed but the seeds are whole.
- Strain the juice to remove sediments and seeds.
- Combine both the juices together in a large pitcher and stir in sugar.
- Add more water if the juice is too thick
- Leave in the fridge to cool till required.
- Serve with ice cubes in tall glasses decorated with mint leaves.

CE talks to home chefs and brings you five drinks that can keep you refreshed this season

SIP-SIP HOORAY!

SONU M KOTHARI

AS the weather continues to fluctuate, Bengalureans find comfort in homegrown, age-old recipes – spiced buttermilk ladled from clay pots, rose milk at street corners, and sharbat passed around in paper cups. These traditional summer drinks are often made in batches, stored and shared freely among family members and neighbours, fostering a sense of community. They still continue to refresh the parched souls, offering a cool respite from the midday heatwaves and after.

These easy-to-prepare, delicious summer drinks keep individuals hydrated. Additionally, they carry memories, traditions, and shared stories of a season. Here are a few drinks to keep you energised this season.

Palm Nectar with Ice Apple

BY GNANASINGH ARPUTHADAS, food critic

LOCALLY known as pathaneer with nungu, this is a time-honoured summer drink cherished across rural Tamil Nadu. Drawn from the palmyra palm and enriched with tender ice apple pulp, this drink is a naturally sweet, cooling, and nourishing refreshment.

HISTORY & TRADITION

THIS drink dates back centuries and is closely tied to the livelihoods of Tamil Nadu's panayakkarar (palm climbers), who skillfully tap pathaneer – the unfermented sap of the palmyra tree – at dawn. The sap is enjoyed fresh or paired with nungu (ice apple), the translucent fruit of the same tree, to beat the searing heat. Often served at roadside stalls, village gatherings, and temple fairs, it is as much a cultural emblem as a seasonal remedy.

INGREDIENTS

- Fresh pathaneer (Palm Nectar): 1 glass
- Ice apples (Nungu): 3-5, peeled

HEALTH BENEFITS

- Natural coolant that regulates body temperature
- Rich in electrolytes, making it ideal for hydration
- Boosts digestion and eases fatigue
- Low in calories, yet filling and rejuvenating

Method

Pour fresh pathaneer into a glass. Add peeled ice apples chunks. Stir gently and serve immediately.

TIP: Sourcing freshly-tapped pathaneer before noon ensures the drink retains its sweetness and doesn't ferment.

Mint lemon cooler

PASSED down through oral tradition to Lathika by her grandmother, the mint lemon extract is a yearly ritual at her house. Taking in note the easy availability of lemons and mint during the season, she stores bottles of this extract and sips it soon after reaching home after travelling.

INGREDIENTS

- Fresh mint leaves: 1 cup (washed)
- Lemon: 2 large (or 4 small)
- Sugar: 4 to 5 tbsp (adjust to taste)
- Black salt: ¼ teaspoon
- Roasted cumin powder: ¼ teaspoon
- Water: 4 cups (medium)

METHOD

- In a saucepan, add water, two cup mint leaves, sugar, black salt, and cumin powder.
- Boil the ingredients together. Once the flavours from the mint are extracted and it becomes soggy, turn off the flame.
- Strain the water and squeeze in the lemon juice.
- Add the remaining water and mix well. Store in a refrigerator. Mix the extract with water and serve.
- Serve chilled with ice cubes, garnished with mint leaves or lemon slices.

Benefits

Lemons detoxify and aid in hydration, whereas mint helps with digestion and cools the body. They are natural electrolyte.

NUGGET

School celebrates graduation day

The Canadian International School (CIS), Bangalore celebrated a landmark occasion, as it hosted the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025, coinciding with the 25th anniversary of CIS offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP). Under the theme 'Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened', the event reflected the journey, achievements, and aspirations of 79 graduating students. "We are proud to have had the time nurturing, challenging, and empowering our students who now go off into the world to contribute to the greater good of humankind," said Ted Mockrish, head of school.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Ms. MAANASA G HOLLA** D/o Gopalakrishna K, Aged about 19 years, residing at No.834, Behind St. James Church, Manorayana Paya, R T Nagar Post, Bangalore - 560032. Do here by declare that my name changed from "MAANASA G" (Old Name) to **MAANASA G HOLLA** (New Name) vide affidavit dated **28.04.2025** sworn to before the **B. Hanumanthraya,** B.A. LL.B., Notary Public, Government of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JYOTI PRAKASH DABADE**, W/o. Girish Gururaj Joshi, residing at No. 26, 3rd Main, Vivekanand Nagar, Katriguppe Main Road, BSK 3rd Stage, Bangalore-560085, have changed my name to **JYOTI GIRISH JOSHI**, vide affidavit dated 23.05.2025, sworn before notary Deepa M, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Dhruv Raghunandan, aged about 18 years, S/O Raghunandan Manchenahalli, residing at #8/1, South Cross Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Dhruv Raghunandan Rao to Dhruv Raghunandan vide affidavit dated, 22/05/2025, sworn to before Advocate & Notary, L. Puttaraju, at Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUJAL D KAVADE** Aged about 17 years, S/o. Dharmasa N Kavade, Residing at Sumadhura Mathrushree Residency 42, A-3 Block, Flat No. 126, Thindlu Main Road, Near Thindlu Bus Stop, Thindlu, Bengaluru - 560 097, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SUJAL** to **SUJAL D KAVADE** vide affidavit dated 24.05.2025 sworn to before K.V. Nanjaiah, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ADELINE RITE, Aged about 32 years, D/o. R Alexander, residing at No.92/1, 2nd Floor, Prajavani Layout, Anjaneya Street, Chelakere, Kalyanagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560034, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor daughter from FELECIA DEBBY EDWARD, FELICIA DEBBIE (Old Name) to DEBBIE ABRIEL (New Name), henceforth my Daughter shall be known and called as DEBBIE ABRIEL (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 23/05/2025 before Notary HEGDE GANAPATI VENKATRAMAN at BENGALURU.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **DIVYA P.R. D/o RADHA KRISHNAN P.N.** aged about 40 years, residing at #54, 4th Cross, Someshwara Nagar, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bangalore-560011. Do hereby solemnly affirm and declare oath as under: That my name is **DIVYA P.R.** My name is mentioned in my Passport as **DIVYA RADHA KRISHNAN ANOOP** instead of **DIVYA P.R.** I state that **DIVYA RADHA KRISHNAN ANOOP** and **DIVYA P.R.,** is the name of one and the same person and that is myself. I state that I have renounced my earlier name mentioned in my Passport as **DIVYA RADHA KRISHNAN ANOOP** and henceforth I am known and recognized as **DIVYA P.R.,** for all practical purposes. Vide affidavit dated on 24th May 2025. Sworn before Notary N. Nagappa, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, Ruchi Chaudhary, D/o. Sri. Ashok Kumar Chaudhary, aged about 47 years wish to submit that in my passport my name is mentioned as Ruchi Ashok Chaudhary instead of Ruchi Chaudhary. I hereby submit that both the names **Ruchi Ashok Chaudhary & Ruchi Chaudhary** are the same person. Vide affidavit dated 22.05.2025 sworn before Advocate and Notary N. Thulasi, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MAHESHADITHYA J.** aged 21 years, S/o. Jayappa Devangada Ramappa, residing at No.987, 27th Cross, near Telecom Layout railway crossing, MCECHS Layout, 1st Phase, Bengaluru-560077, have changed my name from **MAHESH ADITYA DEVANGADA JAYAPPA** to **MAHESHADITHYA J.** vide affidavit dated 24-05-2025 sworn before Notary **DEEPA M.** BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **BADUGU BHARGAN RAM** aged about 19 Years, S/o **Venkata Srinivasa Rao Badugu** and **Uma Maheswari Badugu** R/at F-120, MJ Lifestyle Amadeus Apartments, Rayasandra, Huskur, Anekal, Bengaluru-560099, have changed my name to **BHARGAV RAM** With Surname **BADUGU** vide affidavit dated: 24/5/2025 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Dileep Kumar** R S/o Ranganath K M residing at Yaraballi, Chitradurga, Hiriyuru, Yaraballi, Karnataka -577545 here I have change my son name from **Riyaansh Vihaan.D** to **Avyaan Devarth. D** vide affidavit dated:21/5/2025 sworn before Notary H.R. Karunakara, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
This is to declare that I, **RAJAKUMARAN SHANMUGAM ARIVUMANI,** S/o ARIVUMANI SHANMUGAM, aged about 41 Years, residing at A-308, Nishant Prime Apartments, Immadihalli Main Road, Hagadur, Whitefield, Bengaluru-560 066, Karnataka State, India, has changed my name to **'RAJAKUMARAN ARIVUMANI'**, vide Affidavit sworn to before Notary Public, Yankoba, Government of India, Bangalore City, on 24th Day of May 2025.
Henceforth I wish to be called and known for all acts, deeds and things as **RAJAKUMARAN ARIVUMANI.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MOHAMMED AFSAR,** Residing at No. 530, 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, Patelappa Layout, RMV 2nd Stage, Nagashettihalli, Bengaluru -560094, have changed my name to **MOHAMMED AFSAAR SALMANI** vide affidavit dated: 20.05.2025 before notary CHANDRAKALA, Bengaluru.

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'GOOD WRITERS NEED NURTURING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN KANNADA CINEMA'

...says actor Chaithra J Achar, as she opens up about her next project, Maarnami, and how she is happy that filmmakers don't approach her with clichés or just for eye candy

A still from the film

A SHARADHAA

CHAITHRA J Achar, known for her ability to breathe emotional depth and nuance into every role, continues to captivate audiences. After good performances in *Toby* and *Saptha Sagaradaache Ello Part 2*, she returns with her next, *Maarnami*. The film is pegged to be a fresh blend of culture, romance, and drama.

Directed by Rishith Shetty, Maarnami is a coastal love story that weaves together regional culture, tiger dance traditions, romance, action, and comedy. Chaithra plays Deeksha in a story set against the vibrant backdrop of Dasara celebrations in Mangaluru and parts of Karnataka—a detail that inspired the film's title, which means 'Dasara'. The teaser, unveiled by actor Ramya, has already grabbed attention.

Chaithra stars opposite Ritvikk, with Prakash Tuminadu and Sonu Gowda in supporting roles. Produced by Shilpa Nishanth under Gunadya Productions, the film features music by Charan Raj and cinematography by Shivasena.

Speaking to Cinema Express about her role in Maarnami, Chaithra shares, "It's a nicely written character. The shooting is complete, and dubbing is almost through. *Maarnami* is a love story with a gangster drama twist. My character looks cute but is quite complex—she's fickle-minded and unpredictable, yet very likeable."

Appreciating the space women are getting in today's commercial films, Chaithra says, "When I heard the story, I felt they had crafted the narrative and my role well. As a heroine, I'm not part of a star vehicle; the story comes first. Even if I'm on screen for five minutes, I want my contribution to be meaningful. Otherwise, I'd rather not do it."

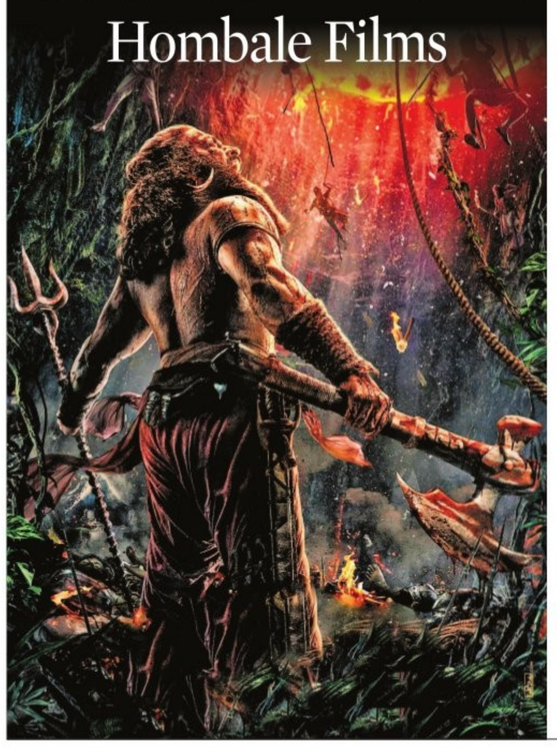
Chaithra is pleased that filmmakers have avoided typecasting her, offering fresh and diverse roles. "They don't approach me with clichés or just for eye candy. Maarnami has all the elements—a story, songs—but with a different treatment, and I'm glad to be acknowledged for that."

On Kannada cinema's writing culture, she notes, "There are good writers with dreams and aspirations, but many drop out due to lack of financial backing and proper investors aligned with their vision. Writers need to be nurtured and acknowledged more. For example, Malayalam cinema credits writers prominently, often even before the director. Here, that culture is missing. Directors don't need to write themselves; they should consider others' stories."

Maarnami is targeting a release around Dasara. "From script to dubbing, the production house and producer Shilpa Nishanth have been sensible and creative," says Chaithra.

Expanding her horizons beyond Kannada cinema, Chaithra is also eagerly awaiting the release of *3BHK*, a Tamil-Telugu bilingual with Siddharth, which will hit the screens on July 4. "I've dubbed in both Tamil and Telugu and learning these languages has been interesting and challenging. I'm looking forward to the release."

Rishab Shetty's *Kantara Chapter 1* to arrive as scheduled : Hombale Films



CE FEATURES

AMID strong rumours and growing speculation about the release date of *Kantara Chapter 1* being rescheduled, Hombale Films has stepped forward to set the record straight. It is now clear that *Kantara Chapter 1*, directed by Rishab Shetty, who also plays the lead, will hit theatres worldwide on October 2, just as originally announced.

With the production progressing seamlessly, the team assures fans that everything is unfolding exactly as planned. Riding high on the cultural and critical success of the original *Kantara* film, this prequel is set to take the audience even deeper into the world rich with mysticism, folklore, and soul-stirring storytelling.

Hombale Films urges audiences to disregard unofficial claims or speculative reports and to rely solely on verified updates from the studio. The film is set to hit the theatres in Kannada, with dubbed versions in Hindi, Telugu, Tamil, and Malayalam. The film will be available on Prime Video.

Rishab Shetty, who has written the script along with his team, returns to helm and star in the prequel, with Jayaram and Rakesh Poojari playing pivotal roles.

The film has Ajaneesh B Loknath and Arvind S Kashyap returning as composer and cinematographer, respectively.

Dhruva Sarja-Narthan to join hands for a project?

CE FEATURES

DHRUVA Sarja is currently in Switzerland, wrapping up the final song for Prem's *KD*, produced under the KVN Productions banner. The film is expected to be released in August, as previously shared by the director, although an official release date is yet to be announced.

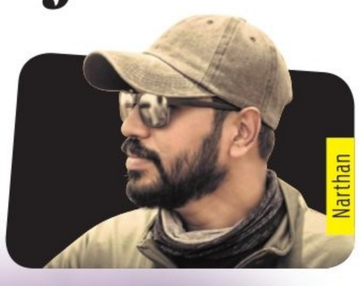
While Prem's *KD* is slated for release soon, there is growing speculation about Dhruva Sarja's next project. Earlier rumours hinted at a continuation with KD Chapter 2, but the actor has reportedly given a green signal to a couple of other ventures, including one with director Rajguru, known for Kerebete.

The latest buzz suggests that Dhruva Sarja and director Narthan are likely to collaborate on a new film. A source close to the actor reveals that talks are ongoing, with the story expected to be finalised soon. If all goes according to plan, the formal launch is anticipated to take place in July.

Meanwhile, Cinema Express has learnt that director Narthan, who has signed with KVN Productions, was initially rumoured to be directing Ram Charan—a project that seems to be delayed. There was also talk of Narthan being in discussions with Sudeep for another film. However, current news indicates that Dhruva and Narthan have held their initial talks, with Narthan planning to develop a storyline tailored for Dhruva.

Narthan, who came to fame with Mufti, recently directed Shivarajkumar's *Bhairathi Ranagal*, and is yet to hint about his third outing.

If everything proceeds smoothly, an official announcement from the actor and director could be expected soon. Whether the project will be produced under KVN Productions, given both have their schedules tentatively blocked, or under a different banner remains to be seen.



Narthan

Dhruva Sarja

TRIPTII DIMRI JOINS *SPIRIT*

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Triptii Dimri has joined Sandeep Reddy Vanga's upcoming action-thriller *Spirit*, she announced on Saturday. The film, billed as an intense cop story, is headlined by Prabhas. Triptii shared a poster of the film on social media to make the announcement. She wrote, "Still sinking in. So grateful to be trusted with this journey. Thank you Sandeep Reddy Vanga, honoured to be a part of your vision." Sandeep shared the same poster and wrote, "The female lead for my film is now official." Earlier, there were reports that Deepika Padukone was in talks to play the female lead. The film is produced by Bhushan Kumar and Sandeep and Pranay Reddy Vanga. Triptii has worked earlier with Sandeep in Ranbir Kapoor's *Animal*, which was released in 2023. She was last seen in *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3*, which hit the theatres on Diwali last year. She also has another film in the pipeline, helmed by Vishal Bhardwaj and also starring Shahid Kapoor.

Pruthvi Ambaar has given pieces of himself for *Chowkidar*: Chandrashekar Bandiyappa

CE FEATURES

PRUTHVI Ambaar, known for his sensitive and introspective performances in films like Dia, is aiming to redefine his screen identity with his next film. While Kothalawadi already hinted at a shift, his role in director Chandrashekar Bandiyappa's *Chowkidar*, a Kannada-Telugu bilingual, is pegged to mark his most radical transformation yet.

The teaser places Ambaar front and center in a brutal new avatar with blood streaked across his face and eyes filled with both rage and sorrow. He steps into a character that feels far removed from his earlier work.

"This is a man who has seen too much, and carries it all in silence," says director Chandrashekar Bandiyappa, and adds, "Pruthvi didn't just act the part—he absorbed it."

Known for his quiet intensity, Ambaar conveys depth without excess. In *Chowkidar*, his transformation appears not only physical but also emotional and philosophical. The teaser hints at a man caught between violence and morality.

"He isn't loud, but when he enters a frame, everything shifts," says veteran actor Sai Kumar, who plays his father in the film. "He's one of the few young actors who doesn't chase the camera—it follows him."

Cinematographer Siddu Kanchanahalli frames Ambaar in stark lighting and sharp shadows, capturing this new character's vulnerability and rage. The film features Dhanya Ramkumar in a de-glamorised role, offering a softer counterpoint to Ambaar's intensity. The cast also includes seasoned actors like Sudha Rani and Taar, while Sachin Basrur scores the music for the film.

"We've built a character who's not easy to explain in words," the director says. "He is a protector but also a man at war with himself. Pruthvi gave more than just a performance—he gave pieces of himself."

Echoing this sentiment, Pruthvi says, "This character broke me a little. That's how I knew it was worth doing."

Produced by Kallahalli Chandrashekar and co-produced by Vidya Devi, *Chowkidar* begins its promotional rollout with its first song set to be released on June 1. An official announcement about the release date is expected to be out soon.

"We're not rushing to explain what this film is," says Bandiyappa. "We want people to feel it first. And Pruthvi is at the heart of that feeling."

Stills from the film

Pruthvi Ambaar and Dhanya Ramkumar

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

MYSURU'S TECHNICAL TAKEOFF

Mysuru, long celebrated for its royal heritage and cultural richness, is now firmly establishing itself as a rising hub for engineering education in India. Blending historical legacy with forward-thinking academic infrastructure, the city's engineering institutions have steadily built a reputation for excellence, drawing students from every corner of the country.

The city is home to over fifteen engineering colleges, comprising a mix of both government-run and private institutions. Among the most prominent are Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE), JSS Science and Technology University, The National Institute of Engineering (NIE), and Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering. These institutions have become synonymous with high academic standards, modern facilities, and consistently strong placement records. As a result, they remain top choices for aspiring engineers seeking quality education in a serene and intellectually stimulating environment.

Mysuru's engineering colleges offer a wide array of specialisations, catering to both traditional disciplines and emerging fields in technology. Computer Science Engineering leads the pack in popularity and availability, offered by sixteen colleges across the city. This is followed closely by Mechanical Engineering in fourteen colleges, Electronics and Communication Engineering in thirteen, Civil Engineering in twelve, and Electrical Engineering in nine. This broad range of disciplines allows students to pursue their interests across different domains, while also staying aligned with evolving industry demands and innovations.

Admission to these institutions is highly competitive, reinforcing Mysuru's reputation for academic rigor. Prospective students must clear state and national-level entrance examinations such as the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET), COMEDK UGET, or the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE Main). A strong academic background in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics is essential, with most colleges requiring at least 60 percent aggregate marks in 12th standard examinations. This merit-based system ensures that Mysuru's engineering colleges attract some of the brightest minds in the country.

Affordability is another key factor contributing to the city's appeal. Engineering education in Mysuru is offered across a range of fee structures, making it accessible to students from diverse economic backgrounds. Government colleges typically charge as little as ₹45,000 for the entire program, while private institutions may have tuition fees going up to ₹4 lakh. This tiered structure provides ample opportunities for students to pursue high-quality education regardless of their financial circumstances.

The strong industry linkages maintained by Mysuru's engineering colleges play a crucial role in student success after graduation. Institutions such as the National Institute of Engineering boast impressive placement figures, particularly in sought-after branches like Computer Science Engineering. For instance, 130 out of 145 registered students in this branch secured placements in a single academic cycle, showcasing the robust demand for Mysuru-trained engineers. The growth of India's IT, manufacturing, and infrastructure sectors continues to drive recruitment from these colleges, reinforcing Mysuru's status as a credible talent hub for technical professionals.

National recognition further elevates the city's profile in the educational landscape. Colleges like JSS Science and Technology University and The National Institute of Engineering are frequently featured in prestigious rankings, including the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) and evaluations by Careers360. These accolades underscore the institutions' commitment to quality, infrastructure, research, and overall academic excellence.

Mysuru's engineering colleges have not only kept pace with the evolving demands of the profession but have also set benchmarks in cultivating innovation and nurturing future-ready engineers. With their comprehensive curricula, strong industry collaborations, and focus on holistic development, these institutions are playing a vital role in shaping the next generation of technologists and problem-solvers. In doing so, they ensure that Mysuru remains not just a city of historical significance, but also a hub of modern technical education in India.

Sri K.V. Shankaragowda
Founder

People's Education Trust (R.), P.E.S. College of Engineering, Mandya

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The GSSS SoAW Experience

Late Prof .B.S Pandit, Hon. Founder Secretary GSSS Mysuru

Late Vanaja B Pandit, Former Hon Secretary GSSS Mysuru

Architecture reflects human culture, values, and aspirations, serving as a bridge between form and function. Architects blend artistic, technical, and environmental elements to create spaces that inspire and elevate the quality of life. From designing homes for families to constructing iconic structures that shape urban landscapes, architects possess the power to redefine how society engages with its surroundings.

The Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch) programme at the GSSS School of Architecture for Women (SoAW) equips students with a deep understanding of architectural history, theory, and practice. As a multifaceted discipline, the course prepares students to design future-ready, functional, and innovative environments while integrating social, cultural, and environmental considerations.

At GSSS SoAW, students extend their learning beyond the classroom. They gain valuable practical experience through studio work, internships, site visits, and participation in real-world architectural projects, offering them first-hand insight into the profession's challenges and opportunities.

Located in the heritage city of Mysuru, GSSS SoAW is committed to nurturing women architects who advocate for sustainable design. Students are trained to incorporate eco-friendly principles, design energy-efficient buildings, and utilise innovative techniques to reduce environmental impact. They are also encouraged to collaborate with professionals across fields such as urban planning and interior design, ensuring interdisciplinary teamwork. This approach develops strong communication and coordination skills—key to delivering successful architectural outcomes.

Students at GSSS SoAW are continuously exposed to emerging trends and technological advancements that are transforming the architectural landscape. These include sustainable architecture, smart cities and IoT integration, adaptive reuse of existing structures, architectural heritage conservation, and biophilic designs that enhance occupant well-being.

Graduates of this programme are well-prepared for diverse career paths in Architectural Design, Urban Planning and Development, Interior Design, and Landscape Architecture, or may choose to pursue academic and research opportunities.

GSSS SoAW, Karnataka's first and only school of architecture exclusively for women, set in the heritage city of Mysuru is a dynamic and evolving platform designed to prepare women architects to meet future architectural challenges with creativity, confidence and professionalism.

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Engineering Students Preparing for the Future

Trends and Strategies for 2025

As the world races toward a future defined by automation, connectivity, and sustainability, engineering students are finding themselves at the nexus of transformation. The traditional pathways of engineering education are rapidly evolving, reshaped by cutting-edge technologies and the growing demand for holistic, socially conscious innovation. In 2025, the engineering student is no longer just a problem-solver but a visionary equipped with tools to meet the demands of a complex and dynamic global landscape.

A major force behind this transformation is the emergence of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning. These fields are not only reshaping the job market but also redefining the very foundation of engineering disciplines. From smart infrastructure to autonomous systems, AI is integrated into nearly every domain. Today's students are learning programming languages like Python and diving into powerful frameworks like TensorFlow, ensuring they are ready to lead in an AI-driven world.

Sustainability has also become central to the engineering mindset. As the world grapples with climate change, students are increasingly focusing on renewable energy, eco-friendly materials, and lifecycle analysis. Whether designing net-zero buildings or developing sustainable transport systems, the next generation of engineers is being trained to create solutions that balance innovation with environmental responsibility.

Robotics and automation are no longer confined to science fiction—they are everyday realities in industries such as manufacturing, aerospace, and healthcare. Engineering students are getting hands-on experience with robotics programming, control systems, and simulation tools, preparing to work with and design the intelligent machines that will define future workplaces.

Similarly, the Internet of Things (IoT) is bringing intelligence to infrastructure and electronics, with applications in smart grids, connected cities, and precision agriculture. Students are mastering embedded systems, communication protocols, and sensor networks, which are all essential for building this interconnected world.

The explosion of data has placed cloud computing and data engineering at the heart of modern engineering practices. Platforms like AWS, Google Cloud, and Azure, along with big data tools such as Apache Spark and Kafka, are becoming standard knowledge areas. Students are earning certifications and learning to analyse, store, and manage vast amounts of information efficiently and securely.

Beyond technical expertise, engineering students are cultivating a broad spectrum of skills necessary for future success. Cybersecurity training is becoming essential, as engineers are increasingly responsible for protecting digital infrastructures. At the same time, there is a growing emphasis on soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and leadership, which are fostered through group projects and student leadership roles. These abilities are crucial for effective collaboration and project management in multidisciplinary teams.

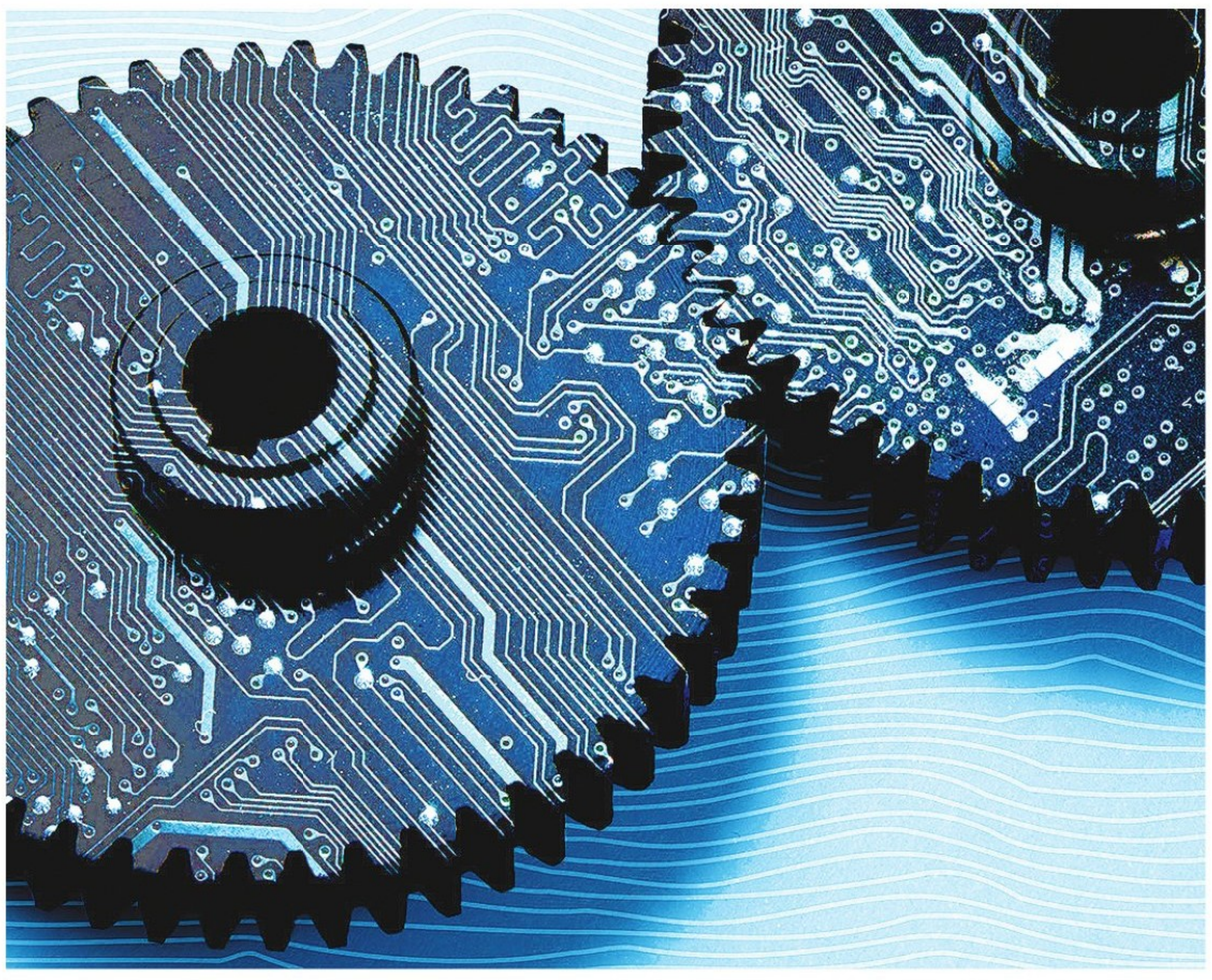
An entrepreneurial mindset is also taking root among students, many of whom are engaging in startup events and business training to understand the commercial and social potential of their ideas. Ethical and social responsibility are equally important, with engineering curricula now incorporating topics related to public safety, regulatory compliance, and sustainability to ensure that future innovations contribute positively to society.

To stay ahead, students are leveraging modern learning approaches that blend traditional classroom instruction with online modules and practical labs. Blended learning models offer flexibility and enhance engagement, while industry partnerships provide invaluable real-world experience. Internships, co-op programs, and collaborative research projects help students apply their knowledge in professional settings and gain insight into industry expectations.

Personalised and lifelong learning is also becoming the norm. Online platforms now offer micro-credentials and tailored learning pathways, allowing students to upskill continuously throughout their careers. Certifications in high-demand areas such as cloud architecture, AI engineering, or sustainable design add credibility to their portfolios and demonstrate job readiness.

Participation in hackathons, real-world design challenges, and freelance technical projects further allows students to showcase their creativity, problem-solving ability, and practical experience. These platforms provide more than skill validation—they serve as springboards for innovation and networking opportunities.

Engineering students in 2025 are preparing not just to enter the workforce, but to lead its transformation. They are blending technical mastery with ethical foresight, environmental awareness, and an unrelenting drive to keep learning. In a world where the only constant is change, these future-ready engineers are poised to design, build, and sustain the systems that will shape tomorrow. The future of engineering belongs to those who are adaptable, interdisciplinary, and committed to learning beyond the classroom.



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Where Engineers Rise

ATME College of Engineering Is Redefining Education in Mysuru

In the culturally rich and academically vibrant city of Mysuru, ATME College of Engineering (ATMECE) has emerged as a dynamic force in contemporary technical education. More than an academic institution, ATMECE is a launchpad for aspiring engineers, equipping them not only with degrees but with the mindset, skills, and values needed to lead in a rapidly changing world.

Established with a vision to nurture socially responsible problem-solvers, ATMECE has quickly become one of Karnataka's most forward-looking engineering colleges. It offers a seamless blend of rigorous academics and immersive, industry-aligned learning experiences that stretch far beyond traditional classroom boundaries. "We are not just preparing students for employment—we are preparing them to lead, to create, and to make a meaningful impact," says the college's leadership, capturing the ethos that drives every initiative on campus.

In just eight years, ATMECE achieved a milestone few institutions can claim: it became the youngest college under Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) to receive accreditation from the National Board of Accreditation (NBA). This recognition was reaffirmed with reaccreditation in 2022, validating its consistent commitment to quality. Notably, ATMECE is also the first and only engineering institution in Mysuru to earn an A+ grade from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in its very first accreditation cycle, placing it among the elite engineering institutions in the country. Adding another feather to its cap, ATMECE became the first college in the region to be awarded the QS I·GAUGE Gold Rating, underscoring its alignment with global benchmarks in higher education.

The institution's academic approach is defined by real-world relevance and a culture of continuous innovation. Students are immersed in hands-on projects, industry workshops, and collaborative ventures with leading companies, ensuring their learning is grounded in practical application. Academic excellence is reflected not just in accolades but in the quality of education delivered across departments. ATMECE has established itself as a center of research and innovation, supported by dedicated research centers and an active Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) cell. The college has secured multiple government-funded projects and has made innovation a lived reality for students and faculty alike.

Its students have consistently performed on national platforms, with notable achievements at the Smart India Hackathon since 2017. These successes are driven by a faculty team of over 120 qualified mentors who guide students in academic, professional, and research pursuits. The campus itself supports this culture of excellence, offering state-of-the-art laboratories, smart classrooms, innovation hubs, and advanced technical infrastructure that foster curiosity and invention.

ATMECE also places a strong emphasis on community engagement and social responsibility.

Through outreach programs, environmental initiatives, and sustained efforts toward social impact, the college encourages students to become contributors to society. Career development is another cornerstone of the institution's philosophy. From early mentorship and domain-specific training in the fourth semester to one-on-one career counseling and professional certification programs, students are groomed for success in both national and global employment landscapes. The use of massive open online courses (MOOCs) is actively encouraged, enabling students to learn at their own pace and gain exposure to international standards.

Backed by a robust placement ecosystem, the college has consistently placed students in top-tier companies. Over 3,000 graduates have secured employment in leading firms, with more than 250 companies conducting campus recruitment drives. The highest placement package offered so far has touched ₹12 lakh per annum, signaling the institution's rising stature among recruiters.

A key pillar of the institution's identity is its thriving research culture. ATMECE's annual International Conference on Recent Trends in Science and Technology (ICRTST) attracts thought leaders from across academia and industry, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue. The college has received generous funding from various government bodies, including ₹2.04 crore and ₹17.9 lakh from the Department of Science & Technology for rural development initiatives. Additional grants from the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST), VTU, and the Modernization and Removal of Obsolescence (MODROBS) scheme have supported lab upgrades and entrepreneurship programs. The Institution Innovation Council (IIC) further fuels creative thinking and enterprise development among students.

The numbers speak volumes: over 4,400 students have graduated from ATMECE, and the institution continues to make strides in shaping technically competent and socially conscious professionals. The college's annual cultural and technical fest, ATMEYA, doubles as a platform for environmental awareness, social action, and national service. A shining example of this commitment is the adoption of a government school in Harohalli, where the college actively supports educational development at the grassroots level.

From the campus to career corridors, ATMECE ensures its students are ready to lead with clarity and confidence. It nurtures not just engineers, but innovators, changemakers, and ethical leaders who are prepared to meet the challenges of the future. In doing so, ATMECE is not just redefining education in Mysuru—it is helping shape a generation that will define the future.

GIET: Empowering Generations Through Technical Excellence Since 1962

Ghousia Industrial and Engineering Trust (GIET) was established in 1962 under the visionary leadership of Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed Khan as the founding secretary, and Haji Nabi Shariff as the founder. Its primary aim is to promote and provide quality technical education at all levels, with a special focus on empowering underprivileged and rural students.

Haji Nabi Shariff Saheb, along with Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed Khan—a humanitarian, educationist, and social reformer known as Baba-E-Taleem—also founded the Al-Ameen Educational Society and its corresponding institutions to uplift society through education. The growth and success of GIET are attributed to the dedication and sacrifices of numerous eminent, illustrious, and philanthropic members of the Board of Trustees, who are leaders in academics, research, industry, and commerce.

GIET began with the establishment of the Ghousia Industrial Training Institute in 1962. In 1980, it expanded by founding the Ghousia College of Engineering in Ramanagara taluk, starting with Civil and Mechanical Engineering. Later, it added branches in Electronics & Communication, Electrical & Electronics, Computer Science, and Information Science. The college now also offers postgraduate programmes such as M.Tech and Ph.D. in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Computer Science, and foundational sciences like Physics and Chemistry.

In the academic year 2023–24, new branches were introduced: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI & ML), Cyber Security (CY), and Robotics & Artificial Intelligence. In 2022–23, a Pre-University College was started on the GCE campus in Ramanagara. For the academic year 2024–25, the institute introduced BBA and BCA programs, affiliated with VTU, Belagavi, and received approval to start diploma courses from DTE, Karnataka.

The college is affiliated with Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, and recognised by AICTE, New Delhi, and the Government of Karnataka. All departments are accredited by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) for the sixth term and are also NAAC accredited. It is recognised as the No. 1 Minority College in the State of Karnataka.

The college is spread across 35 acres, located approximately 45 km from Bengaluru on the Bengaluru–Mysuru National Highway (NH 275). Hostel facilities for around 600 students are available on campus, including separate accommodation for girls. Transportation facilities are also provided.

The college was awarded "Excellent Engineering College in Karnataka – 2016" during the II National Karnataka Education Summit & Awards by MNRE & MSME (Government of India), AICTE, Association of Indian Universities, CMAI, VTU, NSIC, Electronics India, niXi, and NIELIT. It also received the "Outstanding Institute with Excellent Infrastructure and Green Campus – 2025" award at the 14th India Education Summit.

Over the decades, GCE has produced professionals who have significantly contributed across sectors globally. Distinguished alumni include the founders of the Shaheen Group of Institutions, the innovators behind V.dot, and Chandra Arya, Member of Parliament in Canada. Several alumni have also joined the prestigious Indian Administrative Service (IAS), serving the nation in vital administrative and leadership roles.

The GIET started the Ghousia I.T.I in 1962 to train craftsmen in trades such as Fitter and Mechanical Draughtsman, aligned with the Government of India's Industrial Training Institutes. In 1977, the institute received recognition and affiliation from the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT), Government of India.

The Ghousia Institute of Technology for Women (GITW) was established in the academic year 2023–24 with the sole purpose of providing affordable education to female students and empowering them in fields like Electronics & Communication, Computer Science, and Information Science Engineering.

It is the only women's engineering college in Bengaluru and the second in the state of Karnataka. GITW is affiliated with VTU, Belagavi, and recognised by AICTE, New Delhi, and the Department of Higher Education, Government of Karnataka.

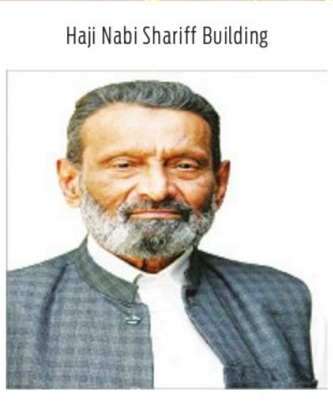
The present Chairman is Dr. Ahmed Shariff Siraj, son of Haji Nabi Shariff Saheb, and the Secretary is Umar Ismail Khan, son of Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed Khan.

These two stalwarts are working tirelessly for the growth and excellence of the Ghousia Group of Institutions. GIET's vision is to uphold a reputation for commitment to the highest quality education and to ensure enriching experiences for its students. The governing members contribute a wealth of knowledge and expertise across various fields.

Haji Nabi Shariff Building

Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed Khan Building

Haji Nabi Shariff Saheb, Founder



Dr. Mumtaz Ahmed Khan, Founder Secy.

Dr. Ahmed Shariff Siraj, Chairman

Umar Ismail Khan, Secretary

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- Computer Science and Technology (for PDA)
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- Electronics and Communication Engineering
- Electrical and Electronics Engineering
- Electronics and Instrumentation Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Industrial and Production Engineering
- Information Science and Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Polymer Science and Technology

Master of Technology (MTech)

- Automotive Electronics
- Biotechnology
- Biomedical Signal Processing and Instrumentation
- Computer Engineering
- Data Sciences
- Energy System and Management
- Environmental Engineering
- Infrastructure Engineering and Management
- Industrial Structures
- Material Science and Engineering
- Maintenance Engineering
- Network and Internet Engineering
- Software Engineering

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- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- MBA in Digital Marketing
- MBA in Financial Management
- Master of Business Administration
- MBA in Retail Management

Computer Applications (CA)

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- Master of Computer Applications (MCA)

Master of Science (M.Sc)

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- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Computer Science (Data Science)
- Computer Science (AI & ML)
- Computer Science (Cyber Security)
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- Economics
- Mathematics
- Physics
- Polymer Science

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MIT Mysore: Igniting a Revolution in Technical Education

Nestled in the tranquil setting of Belawadi, Srirangapatna Taluk, Maharaja Institute of Technology Mysore (MITM) is not just another engineering college—it is a visionary institution redefining the landscape of technical education in Karnataka. Established in 2007 by the Maharaja Education Trust (R), Mysuru, MITM was born from the collective dream of eight passionate educators. These "genius gurus" envisioned a student-centric institution where academic excellence and holistic development walk hand in hand.

A Legacy of Academic Excellence

In just over a decade and a half, MITM has established itself as a powerhouse of academic achievement. Affiliated with Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, and approved by AICTE, the institute has garnered a reputation for consistent university toppers—18 university ranks and 2 gold medals to date—making it one of the most sought-after engineering colleges in the region.

MITM's academic offerings are both broad and future-ready. With 11 undergraduate engineering streams, including specializations such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Science, Information Science, and Computer Science & Business Systems, the institute ensures students are equipped for the demands of tomorrow. Postgraduate programs in MBA, MCA, and M.Tech., along with robust Ph.D. research opportunities for over 100 scholars, further amplify its academic depth.

More Than Just Academics

At MITM, the belief is clear: true education goes beyond textbooks. The institute places equal emphasis on extracurricular development, encouraging students to participate in technical fests, cultural programs, and intercollegiate sports. Its NSS wing, honored as the Best NSS Unit in Karnataka, showcases the college's dedication to social impact and student leadership.

This spirit of all-round development is supported by a thriving community of over 4,000 students and more than 350 faculty and staff, whose expertise forms the backbone of MITM's dynamic learning environment.

Building Futures Through Placement and Training

MITM's dedicated Training & Placement Cell is one of its biggest assets. From the very first year, students are guided with structured training programs that focus on industry-relevant skills, communication, and professional development. This proactive approach has resulted in 100% placement for eligible students, even during uncertain times like the COVID-19 pandemic. The institute also guarantees internship opportunities for all students—giving them a head start in real-world problem-solving.

Infrastructure Designed for Learning and Living

MITM's campus has been thoughtfully developed to foster both learning and comfort. With nearly 100 buses, students from surrounding taluks and districts (up to 80 km radius) can commute safely and easily. On-campus, well-equipped hostels for men and women accommodate students from various backgrounds, ensuring an inclusive and supportive environment.

Innovation in pedagogy is another hallmark of MITM. The institute incorporates technical trips, expert lectures, and student-driven programs into its teaching approach. In response to the digital shift, MITM has established six advanced recording studios to create high-quality online lectures. These are shared globally through JanaMITra, the institute's free YouTube platform, which has become a beacon of accessible education.

A Culture of Continuous Growth

Faculty development is as vital as student growth at MITM. The institute invests in rejuvenation programs and skill upgrades to ensure educators stay ahead of the curve. Mentorship programs further create meaningful teacher-student relationships that guide learners throughout their academic journey.

MITM's excellence is validated by prestigious accreditations from NBA, NAAC, and ISO, and its recent achievement of academic autonomy is a step toward even greater milestones. With its unwavering commitment to its mission—a "Revolution in the Field of Education"—MITM is steadily progressing toward becoming a university in its own right.

Maharaja Institute of Technology Mysore isn't just educating engineers—it is nurturing innovators, thinkers, and responsible citizens of tomorrow. With a legacy built on visionary ideals and a future shaped by relentless dedication, MITM continues to light the way in India's technical education landscape.

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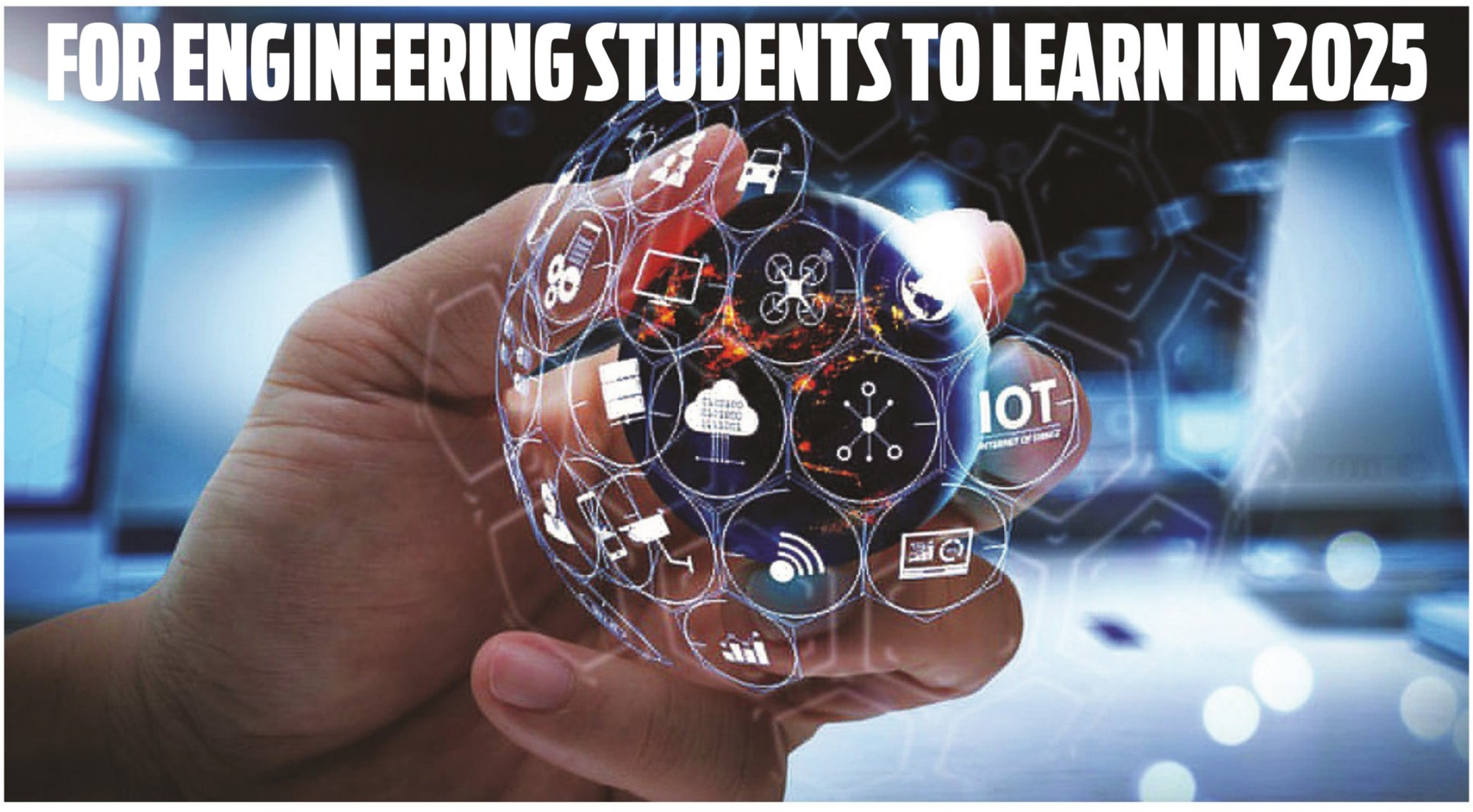
THE MOST IMPORTANT EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR ENGINEERING STUDENTS TO LEARN IN 2025



In 2025, engineering students are navigating a world where technological advancement is both rapid and relentless. Staying ahead means more than just understanding core engineering principles—it requires mastering the emerging technologies that are transforming industries and redefining the skills needed for success.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) have moved from the fringes of tech into the heart of engineering innovation. These technologies are enabling intelligent automation, predictive maintenance, and smart decision-making across sectors from manufacturing and transport to healthcare and finance. Students who understand data structures, algorithms, and machine learning frameworks are positioning themselves at the forefront of this revolution.

The Internet of Things (IoT) continues to expand, with billions of connected devices shaping the infrastructure of smart cities, homes, and industrial operations. For engineering students, learning how to design and manage sensor networks, embedded systems, and real-time data analytics is critical. These skills are vital for creating interconnected systems that respond dynamically to environmental and human inputs.

Blockchain technology, initially known for powering cryptocurrencies, is now making significant impacts in fields like supply chain management, healthcare records, and financial services. Its ability to provide secure, transparent, and decentralized data storage and transfer systems makes it a key area of exploration for engineers. Students who grasp blockchain architecture and smart contracts are discovering new pathways in digital infrastructure design.

As digital transformation accelerates, cybersecurity has become a non-negotiable element of engineering education. With systems increasingly exposed to cyber threats, engineers are expected to develop secure software, perform vulnerability assessments, and apply ethical hacking techniques. Understanding data privacy laws and encryption methods ensures they can design resilient, trustworthy systems.

Quantum computing, though still in its early stages, represents a frontier of vast potential. It offers the possibility of solving complex problems in cryptography, materials science, and optimization that classical computers cannot handle. Engineering students exploring quantum principles, such as superposition and entanglement, are preparing themselves for a future where quantum algorithms could redefine computational power.

Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) are no longer confined to gaming. They are becoming essential tools in engineering education, product design, healthcare training, and architectural visualization. Immersive simulations allow students to interact with digital environments in real time, offering new dimensions in learning and design.

Big Data and advanced analytics have become integral to engineering decisions, from product development to systems optimization. Engineers must know how to collect, process, and interpret massive datasets to guide evidence-based decisions. Proficiency in tools like Python, R, and platforms for data visualization and machine learning is becoming a core competency.

Collaborative robotics, or cobots, are another critical area. Unlike traditional industrial robots, cobots are designed to work safely alongside humans, enhancing productivity and improving workplace ergonomics. Engineering students working with automation systems, sensors, and human-machine interfaces are entering a world where robotics and human labor complement each other.

Sustainability and renewable energy technologies are more urgent than ever, as the planet faces the realities of climate change. Engineers today are expected to contribute to energy-efficient systems, develop eco-friendly materials, and design for a circular economy. Understanding solar, wind, and bioenergy systems is becoming just as important as mastering thermodynamics or mechanics.

Underlying all these technologies is a foundational skill: programming. Whether working on AI models, embedded systems, or simulations, proficiency in languages like Python, MATLAB, and JavaScript is essential. These programming skills form the backbone of most modern engineering tools and applications, enabling students to build, test, and deploy technological solutions across disciplines.

For engineering students in 2025, focusing on these emerging technologies is not just about employability—it's about leadership. Those who embrace these tools and adapt to the rapidly changing landscape will be the innovators, the solution-creators, and the visionaries who shape the engineering challenges and solutions of tomorrow.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

GEETHA SHISHU SHIKSHANA SANGHA (R), MYSURU

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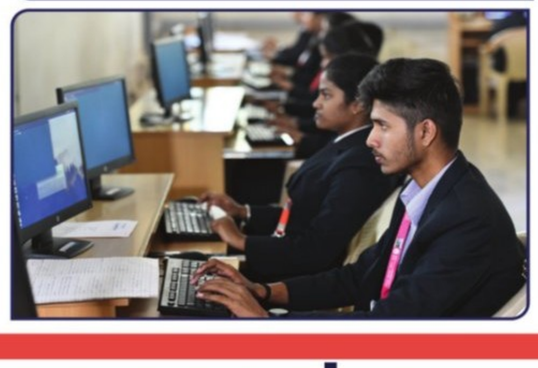
CO-EDUCATION



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BE & B.Arch 72 5981 5981 | **Degree** 94 4878 2121

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Empowering Engineering Excellence

Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering (VVCE) is one of Karnataka's premier engineering institutions, founded in 1997 in the culturally rich city of Mysuru. The college operates under the guidance of Vidyavardhaka Sangha (VVS), a renowned educational body established in 1949 by visionary leaders Sri Sahukar Channaiah and Sri K. Puttaswamy, former Minister of Karnataka, with the goal of providing quality education to all sections of society. Today, VVS is progressing under the leadership of President Gundappa Gowda, Vice President Sri Shivalingappa B, Secretary Er. P. Vishwanath, and Treasurer Sri Shrishaila Ramannavar.

VVCE is led by Dr. Sadashive Gowda B, a dynamic and experienced principal with a strong background in both industry and academia, both in India and abroad. Dr. Gowda was recently honored with the Bharathiya Vidya Bhavan National Award for Best Engineering College Principal by the Indian Society for Technical Education. Additionally, he serves as the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi.

The college is approved by AICTE, New Delhi, recognized by UGC, New Delhi, and the Government of Karnataka. VVCE is an autonomous institution affiliated with Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi. All eligible undergraduate programs are accredited by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA), New Delhi, and by NAAC with an "A" grade. The institution has also been awarded the 'Institute of Happiness' award and Gold Rating by QS-I Gauge, reflecting its student-friendly environment and commitment to quality education. VVCE consistently ranks among the top 200 engineering institutes in India, as per various prestigious surveys, and was featured in the NIRF rankings in 2022.

VVCE offers seven undergraduate and four postgraduate programs, with a total intake of over 1900 students. Additionally, doctoral research opportunities are available across nine departments. The institute has over 5000 students, guided by more than 268 faculty members, of whom over 116 hold PhDs. The faculty's passion for excellence has been instrumental in shaping a top-tier education and research ecosystem, making VVCE a leading institution for teaching, learning, and research in the state.

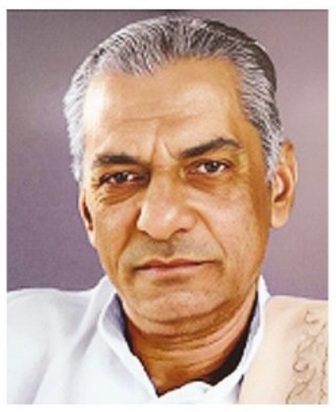
The teaching methodology at VVCE is unique and geared toward producing industry-ready professionals. The curriculum is regularly updated to balance theoretical knowledge with practical skills, ensuring students are well-prepared for the dynamic demands of the industry. Collaborations with industries and EdTech companies further enhance student engagement and career readiness. The college also encourages entrepreneurial initiatives through a free incubation facility that supports budding entrepreneurs on campus.

With over 35 student-led clubs ranging from entrepreneurship and Toastmasters to photography, culture, and sports, VVCE offers a platform for students to develop and showcase their diverse talents. The institute also boasts state-of-the-art infrastructure to meet the evolving educational needs of students, along with Centers of Excellence in each department in collaboration with industry partners.

VVCE offers excellent hostel facilities at affordable rates for both boys and girls. The college has a dedicated Training & Placement Cell that focuses on enhancing the employability of students from their first semester onwards. The cell organizes various personality development programs, soft-skill workshops, counseling sessions, and placement drives. More than 250 companies visit the campus annually for recruitment, providing students with valuable internship and job opportunities.

PES College of Engineering, Mandya

Six Decades of Empowering Rural India Through Technical Excellence



K V Shankaragowda, Founder

K S Vijay Anand, President

Established in 1962 by the People's Education Society, now known as the People's Education Trust, PES College of Engineering (PESCE), Mandyawas the realisation of a dream nurtured by the late K.V. Shankaragowda, a visionary leader, philanthropist, and former Education Minister of Karnataka. Driven by a deep commitment to social upliftment, Shankaragowda envisioned a future where engineering education was no longer the privilege of the urban elite, but a gateway to opportunity for students from agrarian and underprivileged backgrounds.

His vision, fueled by the collective support of Mandya's generous farming community, took root on a sprawling 62-acre campus. It was here that the seeds of a future-forward, inclusive technical institution were sown—one that would eventually blossom into a cornerstone of Karnataka's higher education system. The founding of the People's Education Society in 1958 laid the groundwork for this ambitious endeavour. Initially offering programs in Civil, Mechanical, and Electrical Engineering, PESCE rapidly established itself as a centre of academic rigor and technological advancement.

Shankaragowda led the institution until 1990, after which Dr. H.D. Chowdaiah, an educationist with a deep reverence for the founder's ideals, carried the torch forward. Under his leadership, the college expanded its infrastructure and academic offerings, including the establishment of a national-level sports complex. His tenure, which lasted until 2020, was marked by steady growth and a strengthening of institutional identity.

Today, under the guidance of K.S. Vijay Anand, President of the People's Education Trust, PESCE continues to advance the legacy of its founders with renewed energy and a focus on research, innovation, and industry relevance.

The college is permanently affiliated with Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, and has enjoyed autonomous status since 2008–09, granted by the University Grants Commission. It is recognised by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi, and is a Government of Karnataka Grant-in-Aid institution.

In the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024, PESCE was ranked in the 201–300 band, and it holds an 'A' grade accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), while all its eligible undergraduate programs and the MBA program are accredited by the National Board of Accreditation (NBA).

Academically, PESCE offers a comprehensive portfolio that includes 11 undergraduate B.E. programs and four postgraduate programmes, comprising two M.Tech specialisations, an MBA, and an MCA.

In addition, the institution hosts over 100 research scholars pursuing doctoral and M. Sc. (Engg.) degrees across engineering, management, and science disciplines.

With a consistent focus on research and knowledge creation, the institution's faculty and students have contributed more than 2,000 publications, backed by over Rs 4 crore in sponsored research grants.

Notably, PESCE has also received over Rs 18 crore in funding from the World Bank under the TEQIP initiative.

A vital component of PESCE's modern ethos is its dedication to innovation and entrepreneurship. The PES NEXT Foundation, an incubation centre spanning 9,000 square feet, provides infrastructure and mentorship for startup ventures focused on technology, social innovation, and rural impact.

With over 50 workstations, the center acts as a bridge between academic insight and real-world application. Complementing this are strategic initiatives such as the AICTE IDEA Lab, the MSME-approved Business Incubator, and the State Government-funded New Age Incubation Network (NAIN), all of which strengthen the college's commitment to fostering a dynamic innovation ecosystem.

The college has also established several Centres of Excellence (CoEs) to promote hands-on learning and advanced research.

The Apple Education Centre of Excellence equips students with skills in iOS app development and Apple technologies, preparing them for careers in mobile software development.

The Centre of Excellence for Electric Vehicles engages students and faculty in research and prototype development aimed at advancing sustainable transportation.

The Biofuel Research Centre, developed in partnership with the Karnataka State Bioenergy Development Board, supports training and product development in alternative fuels, producing items such as biodiesel, neem oil, biosoaps, and eco-friendly fertilizers. This center also conducts community outreach and demonstrations, making it a model of academic and grassroots collaboration.

PESCE's commitment to career-readiness is reflected in its outstanding placement record. In 2024 alone, 456 students received 610 job offers from leading firms such as Infosys, TCS, Accenture, Cognizant, Capgemini, Wipro, DXC, IBM, LTTS, Tech Mahindra, Toyota Kirloskar, Daimler Truck Innovation Centre, JSW, Brigade Group, Volvo, Light & Wonder, and Brillio.

The college has also facilitated international placements, including positions in Japan, and begins skill development training from the very first semester, ensuring that students are prepared to meet industry expectations from the outset.

Beyond academics, the PESCE campus offers a holistic and inclusive environment conducive to personal and professional growth.

Spread across 62 acres of greenery, the campus features Wi-Fi-enabled classrooms, a central library, modern laboratories, hostels, and comprehensive transport facilities.

A wide range of sports infrastructure and student-led clubs support physical well-being, leadership development, and cultural engagement. These features make the college not just a place of learning, but a vibrant community of innovation and growth. PESCE, Mandya, with its legacy of over 60 years, has produced more than 30,000 alumni who are contributing to industries and institutions around the world. It remains a living tribute to the vision of K.V. Shankaragowda, continuing to empower generations of rural students with the tools to shape the future. As it steps boldly into the next chapter of its journey, PESCE is firmly rooted in its mission—to deliver inclusive, industry-aligned, and socially relevant technical education that transforms lives and communities.

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Maharaja Education Trust(R.), Mysuru

MAHARAJA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MYSORE

An Autonomous Institute Affiliated to VTU Belagavi

Belawadi, Srirangapatna Tq, Mandya District, Karnataka - 571477

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi | Recognized by Govt. of Karnataka | Affiliated to VTU, Belagavi | All Programs Accredited by NBA
Institution Accredited by NAAC | Institution Certified with ISO 9001:2015 (QMS) and ISO 21001:2018 (EOMS) Certification

PROGRAMS OFFERED

1. Mechanical Engineering (E158ME)
2. Civil Engineering (E158CE)
3. Electronics & Communication engineering (E158EC)
4. Information science & Engineering (E158IE)
5. Computer Engineering (E158CO)
6. Computer science & Business systems (E158CB)
7. Computer science & Engineering (E158CS)
8. Computer science & Engineering (Artificial Intelligence) (E158CF)
9. Computer science & Engineering (Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning) (E158CA)
10. Computer science & Engineering (Data Science) (E158DS)
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ADMISSIONS OPEN
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MBA, MCA & M.Tech.

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COMED-K CODE E-078

MBA CET Code : B-219
MBA with Dual Specialisation :
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MCA CET Code : C-446
Master of Computer Applications

M-Tech, CET Code : T-911
Computer Science | Signal Processing
Thermal | Power Engineering

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Empowering Careers

The Placement Office at JSS Science and Technology University

At JSS Science and Technology University (JSS STU), Mysuru, success extends far beyond the classroom. The university's Placement and Training Office stands as a cornerstone of this success, shaping the future of students by preparing them to meet the demands of the ever-evolving corporate world. With a laser focus on creating industry-ready professionals, the office plays a pivotal role in bridging the gap between academic learning and corporate expectations.

Building Bridges with Industry Giants

JSS STU's Placement Office has cultivated lasting relationships with some of the world's most prestigious recruiters, including a number of Fortune 500 companies. These companies are consistently drawn to the university's exceptional track record of producing highly skilled and competent graduates who are prepared to make an immediate impact in their respective fields.

The university boasts an impressive placement success rate of over 90% across core engineering, IT, and management disciplines. Many students even receive multiple job offers, a reflection of the university's strong academic foundation and its tailored, industry-focused approach to education. This success rate is a testament not only to the quality of education at JSS STU but also to the dedicated efforts of the Placement Office in ensuring that students are job-ready from day one.

Nurturing Industry-Ready Talent from the Start

From the very second year of engineering, students are immersed in a wealth of internship opportunities through partnerships with multinational corporations, innovative startups, and leading tech companies. These internships provide valuable early exposure to the corporate world, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world scenarios. Through this, students gain hands-on experience, working on live projects that mirror actual industry challenges, which enhances their technical and teamwork skills.

The Placement Office's initiatives go far beyond recruitment, offering a holistic student development program that ensures comprehensive growth. This program includes aptitude training, soft skills enhancement, personality development workshops, technical skill development, and career counseling. These initiatives are designed to build not only technical expertise but also the essential interpersonal and communication skills that help students navigate the challenges of the corporate world with confidence.

Real-World Learning: Preparing for the Corporate World

One of the standout features of the Placement and Training Office is its focus on live industry projects. These projects, often carried out in collaboration with leading companies, give students the opportunity to apply their classroom knowledge to real-world business problems. Through these collaborations, students get invaluable exposure to industry practices and gain a deeper understanding of the practical applications of their academic learning.

Students also receive career counseling and interview preparation, which helps them tailor their resumes, improve interview skills, and develop a professional presence.

Shaping the Professionals

Through strategic industry engagement, skill-building programs, and a robust focus on career readiness, the Placement and Training Office at JSS STU continues to shape not just job seekers, but confident professionals and future leaders. By creating a seamless connection between academia and industry, the Placement Office ensures that students graduate not only with a degree but with the knowledge, experience, and confidence to excel in their chosen careers.

Alumni Speak

The impact of the Placement Office is evident in the success stories of JSS STU alumni. Graduates frequently credit the office's resources, guidance, and comprehensive preparation for playing a crucial role in securing prestigious roles across diverse industries.

Priya N., a Software Engineer at Accenture (Batch of 2021): "The support and guidance I received from the Placement Office were instrumental in helping me secure an internship at a Fortune 500 company, which later turned into a full-time job offer."

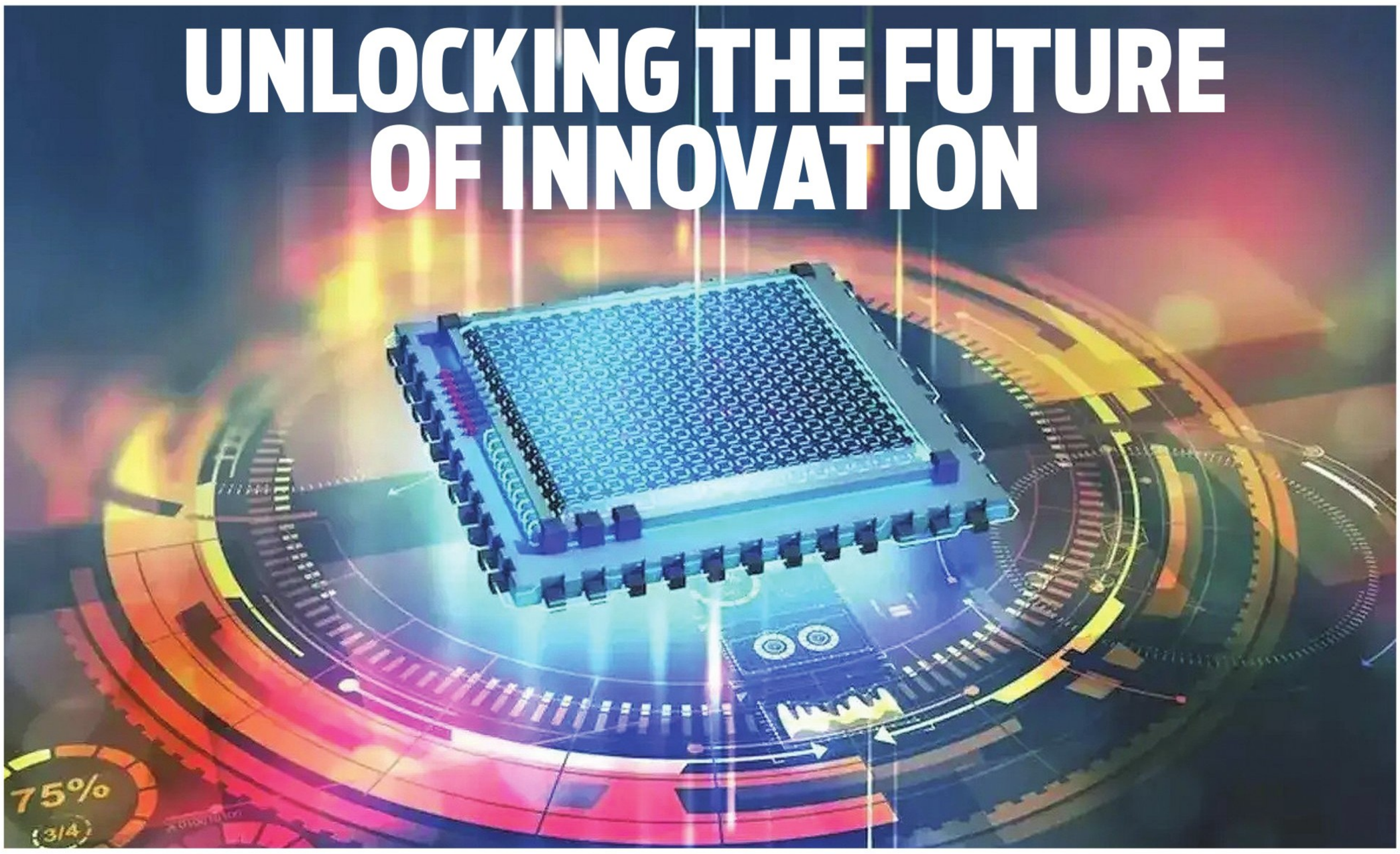
Raghav S., a Data Analyst at Dell Technologies (Batch of 2020): Working on live projects gave me the confidence to speak from real experience during interviews. It set me apart from other candidates."

Ananya M., a Product Manager at TCS Digital (Batch of 2019): The placement training at JSS STU shaped my communication and problem-solving skills. I was fully prepared for the challenges of the corporate world."

STUDENTS ALSO RECEIVE CAREER COUNSELING AND INTERVIEW PREPARATION, WHICH HELPS THEM TAILOR THEIR RESUMES, IMPROVE INTERVIEW SKILLS, AND DEVELOP A PROFESSIONAL PRESENCE.

QUANTUM COMPUTING IN ENGINEERING

UNLOCKING THE FUTURE OF INNOVATION



Quantum computing, once confined to theoretical physics and futuristic speculation, is now on the brink of transforming the engineering world. Its unmatched ability to solve complex problems—many of which are too computationally demanding for classical computers—is ushering in a new era of possibilities across multiple engineering disciplines.

In aerospace engineering, quantum computing is redefining how aircraft and spacecraft are designed. Traditional computational methods such as computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and finite element analysis (FEA) have long supported the optimization of aerodynamic and structural performance. But quantum algorithms take this to the next level, enabling ultra-precise modeling that drastically reduces the need for costly physical prototypes. Engineers can simulate and fine-tune variables like stress distribution and airflow resistance with remarkable efficiency, leading to aircraft that are safer, lighter, and more fuel-efficient. Even the development of structural components is evolving, with quantum computing accelerating the evaluation of millions of potential geometric configurations. This significantly shortens development cycles and enhances material efficiency.

Materials science is another field witnessing the early impact of quantum technology. Engineers are now using quantum systems to simulate atomic interactions and chemical reactions, leading to the discovery of advanced materials with tailored properties. High-strength alloys, corrosion-resistant coatings, and improved catalysts for processes like ammonia production are just a few examples. Innovations in this space have broad implications—not only can they reduce the environmental impact of industrial processes, but they also enhance performance across sectors ranging from construction to energy. Additionally, quantum simulations are driving battery technology forward. By modeling electrochemical behavior at the quantum level, researchers are working toward batteries that offer higher energy densities and faster charging times, both critical for electric vehicles and grid-scale storage.

Quantum sensing is beginning to revolutionize how infrastructure and environmental systems are monitored. These sensors can detect subtle variations in gravity or magnetic fields, offering precise insights into the structural integrity of bridges, dams, and buildings. In seismology, quantum-enhanced detection systems may provide earlier warnings for earthquakes, potentially saving lives and minimizing damage. On a larger scale, these technologies are being explored for optimizing renewable energy integration and improving carbon capture systems. Simulating the interaction between vast environmental variables in real time allows engineers to better forecast energy availability and design systems that are both efficient and adaptable.

The field of cybersecurity is also poised for a fundamental shift. As digital threats grow more sophisticated, quantum computing introduces new tools for safeguarding critical infrastructure. Quantum key distribution (QKD) and other quantum-resistant encryption methods are being developed to ensure secure communication channels across power grids, defense systems, and national data networks. In parallel, engineers are applying quantum algorithms to optimize the physical design of semiconductors, improving how electromagnetic waves travel through circuits. This has major implications for 5G and 6G technologies and the rapidly expanding Internet of Things.

In logistics and manufacturing, quantum computing offers a powerful solution to classic optimization problems. Complex challenges like route planning or cargo loading, traditionally solved with approximations, are now being tackled more precisely. For instance, companies like Quantum-South are already using quantum annealers to streamline aircraft cargo configurations, resulting in improved fuel efficiency and reduced delays. On the factory floor, quantum machine learning is enhancing quality control by detecting flaws in production lines with fewer data inputs, offering both speed and accuracy.

Perhaps one of the most groundbreaking applications is in the quest for clean energy. Quantum simulations of plasma behavior are helping researchers design more stable and efficient fusion reactors. These insights may be crucial to unlocking fusion as a sustainable energy source. Moreover, quantum technologies are being explored to optimize energy distribution in smart grids, allowing real-time adjustments in supply and demand as solar and wind contributions fluctuate throughout the day.

Though many of these applications are still in the early stages, the momentum is undeniable. Engineering sectors such as aerospace, materials science, infrastructure, and energy are already beginning to harness quantum computing's promise. As the hardware becomes more accessible and powerful, engineers will increasingly rely on quantum tools to solve some of the world's most pressing challenges. The future of engineering lies not just in refining classical methods, but in embracing the transformative power of quantum computing to push boundaries and redefine what is possible.

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POWER OF ENGINEERING

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

Mysore College of Engineering and Management (MyCEM)

Shaping Future Engineers Through Innovation and Excellence

Mysore College of Engineering and Management (MyCEM) has swiftly emerged as a distinguished name in technical education since its inception in 2015. Located in Chikkahalli, this private institution is approved by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and affiliated with Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi. Driven by a vision to nurture innovation and academic excellence, MyCEM stands as a testament to the power of focused education, ethical grounding, and future-ready learning.

Founded under the visionary leadership of Jnanavaahini Shikshana Samsthe, MyCEM is more than just an academic institution—it is a centre of transformation for aspiring engineers. With a mission to deliver high-quality technical education and foster a culture of research, innovation, and holistic development, the college prepares students not only for industry challenges but also for meaningful societal contributions. The institution is guided by a strong leadership team, including Sri Shivappa (President), Prof. Manjunatha M (Secretary), and Smt. Poornima B Kiran (Treasurer), along with trustees such as Sri K. N. Puttabuddi, Sri Kishore Bidappa, Smt. Vijayalakshmi, Sri N. P. Thimmaiah, and Sri Ganapathy N. P., whose collective commitment drives the institution forward.

MyCEM envisions becoming a globally recognized hub of academic, research, and professional excellence. Its mission is to continuously evolve and stay ahead in the competitive world by synergistically delivering high-quality education and fostering innovation. The institution provides an ideal academic atmosphere where students acquire a robust engineering foundation, develop practical skills, and are prepared to meet the ever-changing needs of industry.

The college offers a broad spectrum of Bachelor of Engineering (BE) programs, including Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering, Information Science Engineering, and specialized courses in Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning and Data Science. Admission to these programs is merit-based, through Karnataka CET or COMED-K, with a portion of seats reserved under the management quota.

A cornerstone of MyCEM's success is its emphasis on infrastructure and faculty development. The college is equipped with modern facilities, including advanced laboratories, digital classrooms, and resource-rich libraries. Faculty members are not only well-qualified and experienced but also regularly participate in Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), research collaborations, and continuous learning initiatives to stay updated with evolving technologies.

Academically, MyCEM shines through a curriculum that emphasizes experiential learning. From hands-on projects and industry internships to guest lectures by professionals, students are immersed in real-world problem-solving from day one. This approach has consistently translated into academic excellence, with students achieving top ranks and distinctions in VTU examinations. A recent milestone worth celebrating is the gold medal awarded to a Civil Engineering student—an achievement that underscores the academic rigor and commitment to excellence that define MyCEM.

Beyond academics, the college places a strong focus on the holistic development of students. A vibrant campus life includes opportunities for sports, cultural activities, technical fests, and academic competitions. An active alumni association also ensures that past graduates remain connected, contributing to the mentorship and professional networking ecosystem.

MyCEM's dedicated placement cell plays a critical role in bridging the gap between academia and industry. Through training in soft skills, mock interviews, and technical workshops, students are thoroughly prepared to enter the workforce with confidence. The institution has forged strong recruitment ties with top companies such as Accenture, IBM, Infosys, TCS, Wipro, Capgemini, and Cognizant, leading to impressive placement records year after year.

Choosing MyCEM means choosing an institution that goes beyond offering a degree. It's a place where infrastructure meets inspiration, where expert faculty fuel intellectual curiosity, and where students evolve into capable, innovative, and ethical professionals. The college's commitment to hands-on learning, global exposure, and a strong placement framework makes it an ideal launchpad for the next generation of engineers ready to make a mark on the world.

As Mysore College of Engineering and Management continues to grow in reputation and impact, it remains firmly rooted in its founding vision—crafting engineers not just for today's challenges but for tomorrow's opportunities.

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GIET

GHOUSIA COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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AICTE & UGC Under 2(F) & 12 (B), New Delhi. Accredited by NBA & NAAC, New Delhi

College CET Code E013

PROGRAMS OFFERED

GRADUATE PROGRAMMES (B.E / B.Tech.)

Computer Science & Engineering
Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning (AI&ML)
Computer Science & Engineering - Cyber Security
Information Science & Engineering
Robotics & Artificial Intelligence
Electronics & Communication Engineering
Electrical & Electronics Engineering
Civil Engineering

POST GRADUATE PROGRAMMES (M.Tech.)

Manufacturing Science & Engineering
Power System Engineering
Structural Engineering
Machine Design
Computer Science & Engineering

DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

Diploma in Electrical and Electronics Engineering
Diploma in Electronics and Communications Engineering
Diploma in Civil Engineering
Diploma in Computer Science & Engineering

UNDER GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA)

For Admissions Contact

Prof. Aejaz Ahmed K.R
Administrative Officer
98453 69879

Dr. N.S. Kumar
Principal, GCE
91139 55385

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR THE YEAR 2025-26

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GHOUSIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR WOMEN
(BANGALORE)

Affiliated to VTU, Recognised by Govt. of Karnataka
& AICTE New Delhi

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

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Information Science & Engineering
Electronics & Communication Engineering
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College CET Code E299

For Admission Contact :

Dr. Faheem Ahmed
Principal GITW
9986343109

Abdul Basith
A.O GITW
9845908691

Dr. Ahmed Shariff Siraj
Chairman, Ghousia Industrial & Engg. Trust

Mr. Umar Ismail Khan
Hon. Secretary, Ghousia Industrial & Engg. Trust

POWERING THE FUTURE

Emerging Trends in Renewable Energy Engineering for 2025

As the world races toward a cleaner, more sustainable future, the renewable energy sector stands at the forefront of innovation and transformation. In 2025, renewable energy engineering is evolving rapidly—fueled by breakthroughs in technology, climate imperatives, and shifting global energy markets. The developments taking shape today are not only reshaping how energy is generated and consumed but also defining the role of engineers in building the infrastructure of tomorrow.

One of the most promising advancements lies in the field of solar technology. Perovskite solar cells, a new class of materials, are challenging the dominance of traditional silicon panels by offering significantly higher efficiency at a lower cost. Meanwhile, bifacial solar modules, which harness sunlight from both sides, are boosting energy yields. Floating solar farms—deployed on water bodies—are opening up new avenues for large-scale solar installations in land-scarce regions, offering both scalability and efficiency.

Wind energy, too, is experiencing a dramatic leap forward. Floating wind turbines now make it possible to generate power in deeper offshore waters, where wind speeds are stronger and more consistent. Alongside this, enhancements in turbine blade design and construction materials are increasing both the output and reliability of onshore and offshore wind farms, helping to unlock new geographies for wind deployment.

Energy storage is another critical area witnessing a wave of innovation. The development of advanced batteries, from solid-state designs to flow batteries, is addressing one of the biggest challenges in renewable energy—intermittency. These storage solutions are enabling greater integration of solar and wind power into the grid by stabilizing fluctuations in energy supply and demand. Paired with this, energy management systems are becoming smarter and more decentralized, particularly in off-grid or remote locations, where flexibility and resilience are paramount.

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A transformative development gaining momentum in 2025 is the rise of green hydrogen. Produced through electrolysis powered by renewable resources, green hydrogen offers a scalable solution for decarbonizing industries that are difficult to electrify—such as steelmaking, shipping, and aviation. Its adoption signals a significant shift in how engineers are rethinking fuel, transportation, and industrial processes.

At the intersection of renewable energy and digital innovation, artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain are reshaping how energy systems are managed. AI algorithms are forecasting demand with unprecedented accuracy, optimizing power distribution, and enabling predictive maintenance across vast infrastructure networks. Blockchain technology is ensuring transparency and security in energy transactions, fostering peer-to-peer energy trading and decentralized energy markets.

Digital twins and smart grids are further transforming energy management. These technologies allow real-time simulation and monitoring of infrastructure, enabling engineers to respond dynamically to grid loads and prevent outages. As energy systems become more digitized, the role of engineers expands from mechanical design to systems thinking and data-driven optimization.

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Decentralization is another trend redefining energy access and resilience. Microgrids powered by local renewable sources are gaining traction, particularly in regions vulnerable to natural disasters or with unreliable grid access. These systems offer autonomy and flexibility, empowering communities to generate, store, and manage their own energy.

Urban environments are also experiencing a surge in rooftop solar and on-site renewable installations. As cities aim to reduce emissions and meet sustainability targets, integrating energy production within buildings has become a priority. Simultaneously, there's growing attention on climate-resilient infrastructure. Engineers are designing systems that can withstand extreme weather events through smarter planning, durable materials, and robust architecture.

Sustainability is extending beyond energy generation to include what happens at the end of a product's life. The recycling of solar panels, batteries, and other renewable energy components is becoming integral to long-term environmental responsibility. Innovations in sustainable materials and circular economy practices are ensuring that renewable energy solutions do not contribute to future ecological problems.

To maximize efficiency and reliability, hybrid renewable systems—combinations of solar, wind, hydro, and bioenergy—are being developed. These systems balance the strengths of each source, offering a consistent power supply even in the face of variable weather conditions.

Together, these emerging trends represent a paradigm shift in how energy is created, stored, and distributed. Engineers are at the helm of this transformation, driving innovation and shaping a resilient, equitable, and decarbonized energy future. As the sector continues to evolve, renewable energy engineering in 2025 offers boundless opportunities for those ready to reimagine what's possible and lead the world toward a sustainable tomorrow.

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